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Japan

Foreign Minister Meets U.S. Secretary of State

Discuss Bush's Postponed Visit

OW1111043491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0405 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 11 KYODO—U.S. State Secretary James Baker on Monday told Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe that Washington continues to hope President George Bush's postponed visit to Japan can be rescheduled as soon as possible, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Baker and Watanbe agreed to negotiate through diplomtic channels for an early visit by the president, who had been slated to come to Japan late this month on an Asia-Pacific tour, the officials said.

On Japan's rice market issue, Watanabe told Baker, "it is diffiult for Japan to accept tariffication (on rice) without exceptions," the officials said.

The United States has called for trade barriers to be switched to tariffs, which can gradually be reduced.

Baker indirectly urged a political decision from Japan, saying that if the current Urguay round of trade talks fails to agree on farm issues, it would be a big political issue.

Baker told Watanabe it is important for Japan and the United states to take leadership toward a successful conclusion of the multilateral trade talks, the officials said.

Later Monday, Baker urged Kozo Watanabe, minister of international trade and industry, to reduce Japan's rising trade surplus with the U.S.

The surplus with the U.S., Japan's harshest critic on trade, posted its second consecutive monthly increase, growing 7.1 percent in September from a year earlier to 4,621.4 million dollars.

'Noncommittal' on Withholding Aid

OW1111044591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0425 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo Nov. 11 KYODO—U.S. Secretary of State James Baker received a lukewarm response Monday to his call for Japan to continue withholding aid to Vietnam as long as the issue of American soldiers allegedly remaining there against their will remains unresolved.

Baker explained to Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe that the United States is continuing its step-by-step conditional approach to normalization of ties with Vietnam, ministry officials said.

But he said that until the issue of U.S. soldiers taken as prisoners of war (POW) or missing in action (MIA) is resolved, the U.S. wants Japan to continue withholding aid, according to the officials.

Watanabe responded by noting that Vietnam is having trouble meeting payments on its debt to Japan, they said.

He reportedly assured Baker that in talks with Vietnam, Tokyo will call on that government to cooperate with the U.S. in resolving the POW and MIA issues.

Watanabe's noncommittal response to Baker's request, considered against the backdrop of recent statements by Japanese officials, apparently signaled Japan is preparing to resume economic assistance to Hanoi, suspended in 1979 after its invasion of Cambodia.

Officials said Baker pointed out that the U.S. has committed to pick up 30 percent of the expenses to be incurred by the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), adding that Washington expects significant Japanese financial and personnel support.

Watanabe was quoted as pledging that Japan will provide necessary and sufficient support for UNTAC, including personnel support, and is willing to host an international conference on reconstruction of Cambodia some time next year.

UNTAC is to oversee Cambodia's first free presidential election, possibly in 1993.

Touching on relations with the Soviet Union, Watanabe told Baker that Japan is not yet prepared to go ahead with massive financial assistance to that country, the officials said.

The foreign minister said such assistance would depend on a resolution of the territorial dispute between Tokyo and Moscow and well-grounded assurances that the Soviet economy would be able to absorb massive funds, they said.

Watanabe reportedly said Japan is willing to be "flexible" on the exact timing and conditions of a return of four disputed islands off Hokkaido seized by the Red Army at the end of World War II.

Baker also suggested that North Korea's nuclear development is "the most serious threat" to East Asian peace and stability, the officials said.

He was quoted as saying the U.S., Japan, and South Korea should actively solicit the support of China and the Soviet Union in convincing North Korea it must abandon its nuclear program.

Officials said Watanabe agreed with Baker, saying Japan considers North Kora's nuclear program "a great threat."

He added that Tokyo will not concede on its insistence that Pyongyang's acceptance of international inspections of its nuclear facilities is a condition for normalized ties between the two countries, the officials said.

Baker told the foreign minister that Washington is concerned about China's role in the proliferation of nuclear technology to Iran and Pakistan and its exports of sophisticated conventional weapons, the officials said.

The secretary of state, who will go to China after visiting Japan and South Korea, also reportedly expressed concerns over human rights in China.

He said Japan has influence over China, indirectly calling on Tokyo to press Beijing on nonproliferation and human rights, the officials said.

Baker said the U.S. is pleased that U.S.-Japan cooperation has spread beyond the confines of the Asia-Pacific region to such areas as Central America and the Middle East, they said.

He reportedly said he is pleased the U.S. and Japan have arrived at a common view on mutual non-participation in the East Asian Economic Caucus (EAEC) recently endorsed by the six-nation Association of Southeast Asian Nations. The EAEC envisages participation for Japan but not the U.S.

Bush wants his postponed visit to Japan to be realized as soon as possible the Japanese officials quoted Baker as saying.

Watanabe reportedly hailed Baker's successful efforts to bring about historic Arab-Israeli peace talks in Madrid recently.

The officials also quoted Baker as saying he is pleased that Japan is showing an interest in the problems of the Middle East and welcomed Tokyo's expressed intention to participate in follow-up multilateral negotiations associated with the conference.

Hope for Rice Settlement

OW1111112391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1108 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 11 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa told U.S. Secretary of State James Baker on Monday that Japan hopes to settle the rice issue under the Uruguay round of multilateral trade talks.

During a 50-minute talk at the prime minister's official residence, Baker was quoted as saying the Uruguay round talks should go ahead despite the dispute over the long-standing agricultural issue.

The U.S. and the EC have tried to compromise over farm subsidies while the U.S. is asking Japan to open its rice market. Japan has argued that an end to its virtual ban on rice imports would threaten the country's "food security."

Arthur Dunkel, director general of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), will submit a proposal for a framework for farm negotiations later this month.

On other issues, Baker said that nuclear development by North Korea will threaten security in East Asia, and said the United States, the Soviet Union, Japan and China should persuade North Korea to stop its nuclear program.

Miyazawa agreed, saying that Pyongyang's nuclear development will threaten Japan's security.

North Korea has refused to allow the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) to inspect nuclear facilities in the country unless U.S. nuclear weapons in South Korea are withdrawn.

On the issue of the four Soviet-held islands off Hokkaido, Baker said the United States will continue to support Japan's claim to the islands.

The Soviet Union has held Shikotan, Etorofu, Kunashiri and the Habomai group since the closing days of World War II.

Emphasize Correcting Trade Imbalance

OW1111114891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1132 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 11 KYODO—U.S. Secretary of State James Baker told Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa on Monday that new steps are needed to correct the massive and chronic bilateral trade imbalance that favors Japan, according to Foreign Ministry officials.

Baker was quoted as telling Miyawaza that Washington deems it necessary to revitalize the Structural Impediments Initiative (SII) process.

Miyazawa did not give a concrete response, but Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata told Baker in talks earlier in the day that before launching a second round of a wider-scope SII talks, promises made under the first round should be implemented.

Officials said Baker lamented that while the U.S. trade imbalance as a whole is greatly improving, the bilateral imbalance with Japan is on a reverse trend.

He said the trade deficit with Japan accounts for some 70 percent of the U.S. trade imbalance with the world as a whole.

Alluding to U.S. demands that Japan open its closed rice market, Miyazawa told Baker the rice issue should be resolved not on a bilateral basis, but along with the difficult problems of other countries in the framework of the Uruguay round of multilateral trade talks.

Officials said Miyazawa and Baker shared the view of the importance of the round being successfully concluded.

Officials said Baker told Miyazawa that President George Bush is personally interested in having Japan financially support a multibillion dollar U.S. project to build a Superconducting Supercollider (SSC).

He said that Bush will press the issue when he visits Japan. Officials said Baker stressed that Bush's visit to Japan, which was scheduled for later this month, has not been canceled, but merely postponed.

Baker said Bush wants to visit Japan at the earliest opportunity.

Officials quoted Miyazawa as saying Japan looks forward to an early visit so that the two sides can make a "Tokyo declaration" to consolidate their bilateral relationship.

Turning to international issues, Baker said that North Korea's refusal to allow obligatory international inspections of its controversial nuclear facilities is "the greatest element of instability in East Asia and the greatest threat."

He said the U.S., Japan, South Korea, China, and the Soviet Union should link up to convince North Korea to abandon efforts to develop a nuclear capability.

Officials said Miyazawa agreed and noted that Pyongyang's nuclear development program undermines Japan's national security.

Officials said Baker called for Japan's cooperation in dealing with China on the issue of its involvement in the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and exports of conventional weaponry.

Miyazawa pledged Japan will continue to engage in close consultations with the U.S. on that issue.

He pointed out that in July 1990, before he became Prime Minister, he held talks with Bush in Washington on the issues of human rights in China and nonproliferation, which he subsequently took up with Chinese leaders during a trip to Beijing.

Miyazawa expressed Japan's appreciation for the U.S. support in enhancing international awareness of the global nature of a territorial dispute between Tokyo and Moscow.

Baker replied by pledging continued support for Japan's demands for the return of the northern territories, a group of islands seized by the Red Army at the end of World War II.

Foreign Minister Rejects Participation in EAEC

OW0911140491 Tokyo KYODO in English 1351 GMT 9 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 9 (KYODO)—Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe indicated Saturday that Japan will not accept membership in the Malaysian-proposed East Asia Economic Caucus (EAEC) as long as it excludes the United States.

In a television interview, Watanabe said: "The Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum is a conference which includes even the United States, so it is worthwhile, but for my part, I can't go along with thinking which excludes a particular country."

Watanabe's comment, taped for a program on a commercial network, came two days after government officials said U.S. Secretary of State James Baker sent a memorandum to the Japanese Government urging it to oppose the EAEC.

Details of the memorandum were not disclosed but the U.S. has rejected the EAEC proposal, which leaves it out of an organization spanning one of the most dynamic economic regions in the world.

Baker starts a three-day visit to Tokyo on Sunday, before going to Seoul to attend a ministerial meeting of APEC.

While in Tokyo, Baker will meet Watanabe and Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa.

Opposes Exclusion of U.S.

OW1211105991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1040 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 12 KYODO—Japan opposes excluding the United States from the proposed East Asia Economic Caucus (EAEC) because the U.S. plays an important regional security role and is an integral part of Asia, Chief Cabinet Secretary Koichi Kato said Tuesday.

"When Asia-Pacific is discussed, Japan would prefer that the United States is a participant," Kato said at a regularly scheduled news conference.

"America's presence in Asia is multifaceted. From the security perspective, too, we believe America is part of the Pacific," he said.

Kato said he disagrees with the analysis of Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad of Malaysia that Japan's reluctance to support the consultative group is due to pressure from the United States, which opposes the all-Asian group.

Foreign Ministry Spokesman Taizo Watanabe, at a separate news conference, said Japan will wait until Southeast Asian nations discuss the EAEC in January before formally unveiling its position.

U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe said Monday they were pleased with the outcome of bilateral consultations on the EAEC.

Mahathir has said that, even without Japan, he will continue to seek the establishment of the EAEC with southeast Asian countries, China, Taiwan and South Korea.

The Malaysian premier first proposed the east Asian economic group last year in response to the formation of free-trade zones in North America and Europe.

The EAEC, a consultative group representing a watered-down version of Mahathir's original plan, is expected to win endorsement from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

Politician Questions Bush's Trip Cancellation

OW1211000991 Tokyo KYODO in English 2304 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 12 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa should frankly ask U.S. President George Bush about his abrupt decision to postpone his trip to Japan, says Japanese power broker Ichiro Ozawa.

Ozawa, a former secretary general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, said in an interview with the WEEKLY POST magazine, "An American President Goes to Europe but the Trip to Japan was Canceled."

"I am not saying the partner (the United States) is lacking diplomatic niceties, but Japan should think about why (Bush canceled the trip) and whether it's okay for us," Ozawa said in the interview which appeared in the POST's November 22 issue.

"Japanese politicians should say those things with courage," he said.

Bush said he is putting off his scheduled state visit to Tokyo so that he can attend to pressing domestic issues.

Despite support from the party's largest faction, Ozawa declined to run for the party presidency, forcing the faction to endorse Miyazawa as its choice for the top party post and thus the premiership because of the party's majority in the powerful House of Representatives.

In the POST interview, Ozawa called on the Miyazawa government to take the initiative in negotiations regarding the opening of the Japanese rice market in order to honor free trade principles.

"I want him (Miyazawa) to become a leader with decisiveness who does not fear taking responsibilities," he said.

Government Announces Suspension of Yugoslavia Aid

OW1211101191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0928 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 12 KYODO—Japan on Tuesday announced it was suspending aid to Yugoslavia in line with sanctions already being imposed by other major industrialized countries.

Foreign Ministry Spokesman Taizo Watanabe said that Japan would suspend a technical training program and official loans to Yugoslavia, as well as "study the necessity of taking additional measures."

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) accepted 15 Yugoslav trainees in fiscal 1990 ended last March and had been planning to accept another 40 this fiscal year, which began on April 1.

Watanabe told foreign correspondents the suspension of the JICA program will affect only 27 of the 40 prospective trainees, as 13 have already begun training here.

Also to be suspended is a Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) program under which Yugoslavians are to be trained at Japanese firms in Japan and in third countries, mainly in Britain.

The spokesman said Japan will also halt procedures for following up on its May 1990 commitment of a yen loan to Yugoslavia for an environmental project.

"The present situation in Yugoslavia is a threat to international peace and security and requires a common approach by the international community to cope with it," Watanabe said.

The European Community (EC) decided on November 8 to implement a series of measures against Yugoslavia, including suspension of economic assistance, withdrawal of preferential trade treatment, and a ban on imports of Yugoslav textiles.

The EC also asked the United Nations to place a ban on oil exports to the country.

While the United States has yet to formally announce any concrete measures, President George Bush on November 9 revealed Washington's readiness to apply sanctions "comparable to those of the European Community" and to cosponsor a new U.N. Security Council resolution looking toward a possible oil embargo.

On November 11, representatives of the so-called Group of 24 nations meeting in Brussels formally decided to suspend all economic assistance to Yugoslavia.

Foreign Ministry sources said Japan will be looking at how the Yugoslavian situation develops and what measures will be adopted against Yugoslavia by non-EC countries before taking further measures.

They said Japan will also pay particular attention to talks on the matter in the U.N. "In that context, we may take some trade related measures," one official said.

Japan's two-way trade with Yugoslavia in 1990 was about 312 million dollars, including Japanese exports worth some 251 million dollars and Yugoslav imports worth some 61 million dollars.

The spokesman said the Export-Import Bank of Japan is engaged in talks with the Yugoslav side on the stalled repayment of two commodity loans made in 1966 and 1972.

Watanabe said Japan shares the concerns raised in discussions among the EC countries that some Yugoslav republics, which are uninvolved in the current conflict which is centered on Serbia and Croatia, might suffer unnecessarily from the sanctions.

He said Japan also shared EC views on the possible need for compensation to such republics.

Last month, Macedonian Information Minister Trenevski said during a visit to Tokyo that indiscriminate sanctions against Yugoslavia as a whole would be "very unfair."

"Macedonia did not contribute anything to that conflict, so why is the international community punishing us," he asked.

Later in the Day, Nagao Hyodo, director of the ministry's European and Oceanic Affairs Bureau, called in Yugoslavian Ambassador Janko Radulovic and formally conveyed Japan's decision to suspend aid.

According to a press statement, Hyodo urged the Yugoslavian Government to stop fighting secessionist republics and step up efforts to bring about a peaceful solution.

In reply, Radulovic called on Japan to reconsider "in view of longtime friendly bilateral relations," although he promised to convey the decision to the Belgrade government, the statement said.

Hyodo said Japan will not rescind the ban on economic aid as long as force is being used in Yugoslavia.

Government 'Not Opposed' to Conference on Korea

OW1211112691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1100 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 11 KYODO—Japan would participate in a U.S.-proposed regional security conference concerning the Korean peninsula, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Tuesday.

"Our position is that we are not opposed to this kind of six- power conference...if and when all the other parties agree," Spokesman Taizo Watanabe told foreign correspondents. The proposed conference would involve the United States, Japan, China, the Soviet Union and the two Koreas.

U.S. Secretary of State James Baker proposed the forum in the diplomatic quarterly magazine FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Watanabe said Baker did not discuss the proposal concretely in his talks Monday in Tokyo with Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe.

"Secretary Baker simply explained that as to the problem of nuclear weapons development on the part of North Korea, it must be a concern not only to Japan and the U.S., but also to China and the Soviet Union," the spokesman said.

"So the U.S. is thinking of communicating with those countries," he said.

In a policy speech at a Tokyo hotel Monday, Baker suggested there may be potential for "European-style confidence-building measures, and ultimately, arms reductions on the Korean peninsula."

"As the North-South dialogue progresses, we will explore opportunities for cooperation among the U.S., Japan, China, the Soviet Union, and the two Koreas," he said.

Baker said such opportunities "would support the North-South dialogue, help to ease tensions, facilitate discussion of common security concerns, and possibly guarantee outcomes negotiated between the two Koreas."

The REUTERS news agency Monday quoted a senior U.S. official traveling with Baker as saying that Washington may try to involve the region's four major powers in reconciliation talks with North and South Korea.

The official reportedly said no detailed arrangements had been made, but the proposal had gained new currency because of increased fear of nuclear proliferation and concerns about tensions on the Korean peninsula.

'First Permanent' Envoy to Cambodia Dispatched

OW0911110191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1019 GMT 9 Nov 91

[Text] Bangkok, Nov. 9 (KYODO)—Veteran Japanese diplomat Yukio Imagawa leaves Bangkok for Phnom Penh on Sunday as Tokyo's first permanent Cambodian envoy in about 16 years.

Imagawa, 59, will be permanent representative to the Supreme National Council (SNC), a reconciliation body comprising all four feuding Cambodian factions, until an elected government is formed under U.N. supervision.

Japan closed its Phnom Penh embassy in 1975 when the Communist Khmer Rouge replaced a U.S.-backed government and killed hundreds of thousands of Cambodians before it was ousted from power by invading Vietnamese troops in early 1979.

Imagawa is scheduled to present his credentials to Prince Norodom Sihanouk, SNC president, in the Cambodian capital November 18, said officials at the Japanese Embassy in Bangkok where the envoy served as minister before the SNC appointment.

Sihanouk will return to Phnom Penh on Thursday for the first time since the Vietnamese invasion nearly 13 years ago and ensuing Cambodian war.

With a Japanese staff of two, Imagawa will try to normalize relations with Cambodia and help rehabilitate the war-torn country, the officials said.

Imagawa, who spent eight years in Cambodia, is fluent in the Khmer language and worked for a negotiated political settlement to the war fought by the present Hanoi-installed government and a coalition of three rebel groups, including the Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge.

Envoys from many other countries also are preparing to take office in Cambodia now that a U.N.-brokered peace agreement was signed in Paris on October 23.

Austria Agrees To Help Defend Farm Restrictions

OW1111091291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0831 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 11 KYODO—Japanese and Austrian agriculture ministers agreed Monday to work together to defend restrictions on farm imports currently allowed under international trade rules, Japanese officials said.

Visiting Austrian Agriculture Minister Franz Fischler told his Japanese counterpart Masami Tanabu that Austria is in the same position as Japan on the issue of whether to dismantle the current rules, the officials said.

Fischler underlined the need to maintain such import restrictions, saying that special consideration must be made for agricultural products since they are different from industrial goods, the officials said.

In the ongoing Uruguay round trade talks, the United States and some other farm-exporting countries led by Australia have appealed for the abolition of import restrictions on farm products, including Japan's current ban on rice imports.

Reiterating Japan's position, Tanabu told Fischler that Tokyo cannot accept a U.S. proposed idea to replace the rice import ban with tariffs, because it would run counter to a resolution adopted by Japan's Diet calling for a continued ban on rice imports, the officials said.

Foreign, Trade Ministers Leave for APEC Forum

OW1211015791 Tokyo KYODO in English 0131 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 12 KYODO—Japan's Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe and International Trade and Industry Minister Kozo Watanabe left Tokyo on Tuesday morning for a two-day meeting of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum starting in Seoul later in the day.

Ministers from 15 countries in the Asia-Pacific region, including the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Korea, Japan, and the six-nation association of Southeast Asian Nations are holding the third annual APEC meeting.

Keidanren Mission Departs on European Tour 9 Nov

OW0911102491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0903 GMT 9 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 9 (KYODO)—A delegation of the powerful Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) left Japan for Frankfurt Saturday afternoon to visit four European nations.

The mission, led by Keidanren Chairman Gaishi Hiraiwa, will tour Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands, and Britain for talks with political and business leaders, Keidanren officials said.

While in Brussels, mission members will confer with Jacques Delors, president of the European Community (EC) Commission.

The discussion is expected to center on Japan's large trade surplus with and investments in the European Common Market.

Finance Ministry figures show that Japan's trade surplus with the EC for the first nine months of this year came to 20.5 billion dollars, well exceeding the 18.5 billion dollars posted in the same period last year.

New Ambassadors Appointed to EC, Argentina

OW0811015691 Tokyo KYODO in English 0121 GMT 8 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 8 KYODO—The Japanese government on Friday [8 November] announced the appointment of new ambassadors to the European Community (EC) and to Argentina.

The cabinet approved the appointment of Tomohiko Kobayashi, 59, as ambassador to the EC, a vacant post. Kobayashi has been ambassador to Algeria since 1988.

Manabu Yamamoto, 62, a councilor at the foreign minister's secretariat, has been named ambassador to Argentina, succeeding Yoshio Fujimoto.

Kobayashi's appointment goes into effect Friday and Yamamoto's on Monday.

Government Sends Relief Team to Philippines

OW1111125591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1214 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Narita, Chiba Pref., Nov. 11 Kyodo—Japan sent a six-member relief team to the storm-battered Leyte Island in the Philippines on Monday to help survivors of last week's typhoon and floods that killed thousands of local residents.

In addition to the relief personnel, Japan has granted 800,000 dollars in emergency financial aid to Manila and 200,000 dollars worth of medical supplies through one of its quasi-governmental relief bodies, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA).

The Japanese team, slated to engage in relief activities for two weeks, includes two doctors, two nurses, and representatives from the JICA and the Foreign Ministry.

Philippine Government statistics show that Typhoon Thelma killed some 4,000 people and left another 2,000 missing as a result of massive floods and landslides it triggered in the central Philippines on November 6.

Another 740,000 people have reportedly been made homeless by the worst deluge to hit the Philippines in seven years.

Firm Denies Smuggling Weapons to South Africa

OW1211082091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0806 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 12 KYODO—A major Japanese trading firm flatly denied Tuesday an allegation that it was involved in smuggling weapons to South Africa in violation of a ban imposed by the United Nations.

Marubeni Corp. said its investigations showed that the allegation in a South African weekly magazine earlier this month was totally groundless.

The magazine, WEEKLY MAIL, said in its November 8 issue that at least 38 enterprises from 11 countries, including Japan, the United States, Britain, France and Switzerland, smuggled weapons to South Africa in the mid-1980s in defiance of the U.N. ban.

The magazine alleged that Marubeni exported weapons to South Africa's state-owned arms corporation through Hebox Textile, a textile firm based in the country's eastern region.

Marubeni admitted it has had business ties with Hebox Textile for more than 20 years and sold special heat-resistant fabrics to the company between 1983 and 1986.

The company said the fabrics, which were used for the manufacture of fire-fighting and other heat-resistant outfits, were not on a U.N. list of controled items.

Russia Inquires on Buying Oil-Production Equipment

OW0811114591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0808 GMT 8 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 8 KYODO—The Russian Republic's Petroleum Corporation has talked to Japanese companies about buying 700 million dollars worth of oil-production equipment, industry sources said Friday.

The Japanese companies, including major steelmakers Nippon Steel Corp. and NKK Corp. and trading firms, have responded positively to the inquiries on the grounds that increased oil output by the Soviet Union would help ease that country's foreign-exchange shortage, the sources said.

The Russian oil firm, which controls major Soviet oil wells, wants to buy 700,000 tons of seamless pipes worth about 500 million dollars and 200 million dollars worth of drilling machinery and chemicals for shipment in 1992, the sources said.

If negotiations succeed, the Japanese firms will ask for financing from the Export-Import Bank of Japan and for trade insurance coverage by the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, they said.

The Soviet Union is one of the world's largest oil producers, with daily output amounting to 12.5 million barrels during the peak year 1987.

The country's oil production, however, has since declined because of the domestic political and economic turmoil amid President Mikhail Gorbachev's perestroyka reform policy.

Auto Firm Sets Up Operation in USSR, Poland

OW0811103591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0906 GMT 8 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 8 KYODO—Kanematsu Corp. said Friday it has set up a sales and repair operation in Vladivostok in the Soviet Far East and Warsaw, Poland, for cars produced by Honda Motor Co.

The operation in Vladivostok is the first Japanese automobile sales base in the area.

The cars will be sold on commission by the Soviet Union's state-run transport agency Primoraviotrans, which will serve as Kanematsu's sales agent.

Kanematsu, a leading trading house, will sell Honda Accords and Civics at the Vladivostok sales operation, where the cars will be sold for U.S. dollars only.

It aims to sell 100 cars in the first fiscal year and 200 by the third year.

Kanematsu has set up a joint venture in Warsaw with a sales agency which had sold Mercedes-Benz cars. The venture will sell and repair Honda Civics and Accords. It has a 1,000 car sales target for the first year.

Miyazawa Calls for UN Security Council Revision

OW1111073991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0719 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 11 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa called for a revision of the United Nations Security Council on Monday, saying the numerous smaller nations that make up the 167-member global body need fair representation.

"The United Nations is not a body that represents only the interests of major countries, the membership also includes many smaller countries," Miyazawa said on the opening day of Diet interpellations.

Miyazawa said that revision of the U.N. Security Council is among the many reforms needed in order to prevent the U.N. from losing international confidence.

"The more important the role of the U.N. becomes, the more it must act as a fair mouthpiece for each country," Miyazawa said in response to a question by Yoshiro Mori, chairman of the Liberal Democratic Party's Policy Affairs Research Council.

"If the United Nations loses trust, it won't be able to fulfill that role," Miyazawa said.

Miyazawa, who became prime minister last week, did not specify what sort of changes he envisaged for the U.N. Security Council, which is comprised of five permanent members, and a rotating Council of 15.

Japan will replace the Soviet Union as the second largest contributor to the U.N. budget next year, and officials have been quietly lobbying for a reconfiguration of the Council that would allow Japan a seat.

An expansion of the Council to include only industrialized nations such as Japan is unlikely, however, as it would be unacceptable to major developing nations.

The five members of the U.N. Security Council are Britain, China, France, the Soviet Union and the United States—the major victorious nations of World War II.

Each permanent member has the power to veto any proposal put to the Council.

Miyazawa, noting the growing role of the United Nations in international peacekeeping, said it is important for Japan to make the biggest possible contribution to the international body.

"Our country has and will continue to have a major influence on all issues accompanying the basic changes taking place in the world order," Miyazawa said.

He called on his colleagues to swiftly pass a bill that would allow Japan to dispatch soldiers to join in U.N. peacekeeping operations.

The bill is expected to be the focus of the 36-day session of parliament that opened last week.

Miyazawa on SDF Deployment, Defense Budget

OW1211102691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1009 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 12 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Tuesday the government will not need Diet approval each time it sends Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel to United Nations peacekeeping efforts under proposed legislation for SDF deployment.

Miyazawa, who became prime minister last week, said the government will give parliament a report on the details of any deployment of the SDF to U.N. peacekeeping operations.

"The report guarantees the government's civilian control," and the government will be responsible for deployment of the SDF, he said in response to questions from Democratic Socialist Party leader Keigo Ouchi at a plenary session of the House of Representatives.

Ouchi's party has asked that the U.N. peace cooperation bill now under debate include a requirement that the Diet endorse each separate SDF overseas deployment.

Miyazawa suggested that requiring Diet endorsement each time the SDF is sent to U.N. peacekeeping operations could make the participation of the SDF uncertain. "I want to avoid such uncertainty," he said.

He said Japan must be able to send troops to peacekeeping units as soon as the U.N. secretary general asks for them.

The prime minister dismissed the possibility of sending the SDF to U.N. peacekeeping operations under Article 3 of the Japanese Self-Defense Forces law which stipulates that the SDF serves to defend Japan against direct and indirect aggression from foreign countries.

The prime minister said the U.N. peace cooperation bill will give the government sufficient authority to send the SDF to U.N. peacekeeping operations and the Self-Defense Forces Law need not come into play on the matter.

The bill, supported by the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and the No. 2 opposition party Komeito, is expected to pass in the current Diet session.

Prior to the lower house session, Miyazawa fielded questions on foreign policy in the post-Cold War era from Social Democratic Party (SDP) Diet member Manso Hamamoto in the House of Councillors.

Miyazawa said Japanese diplomacy is based on freedom, peace and prosperity and that Japan is ready to play a positive role in building world peace in the post-Cold War era.

He said Japan will cooperate with advanced democracies to make positive political, economic, and technological contributions to international society.

He stressed that Japan will never become a big military power, saying that the country will hold to its war-renouncing constitution.

The prime minister also said Japan will increase efforts to avoid inflicting damage and pain on Asian people as it did before and during World War II.

On the fiscal 1992 defense budget, Miyazawa said Japan will stick to the Japan-U.S. Security Treaty and continue defense buildup efforts.

Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata, hinting at a curb in defense spending, said the government will consider the international situation when it compiles its fiscal 1992 defense budget.

Japan's current defense program plans to spend 22.75 trillion yen during a five-year period that started last April.

Hamamoto proposed establishing an Asia-Pacific security conference, but Miyazawa rejected the idea, saying circumstances are not yet favorable for such a conference.

The prime minister said, compared with Europe, the Asia-Pacific region remains more politically, economically, and culturally diversified.

Miyazawa said unresolved conflicts remain in Asia, referring to Cambodia and the Korean peninsula.

On the Uruguay round of trade talks, Miyazawa said Japan will work harder to resolve the farm trade issue by the end of the year.

Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Masami Tanabu said, however, that Japan will not change its basic agricultural policy of promoting self-sufficiency in rice production.

The United States and the European Community have tried to compromise on the farm subsidy issue and are asking Japan to open its rice market.

Japan, however, has argued that ending its longstanding virtual ban on rice imports would threaten the country's "food security."

Apart from Ouchi and Hamamoto, Miyazawa replied to questions on international and domestic issues from Japanese Communist Party Presidium Chairman Tetsuzo Fuwa and two other Diet members in the lower and upper houses of the Diet.

Farm Minister: Market Opening Demands 'Unfair'

OW1211035591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0334 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 12 KYODO—Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries Minister Masami Tanabu said Tuesday it would be unfair for the United States and the European Community (EC) to demand the opening of Japan's rice market without abolishing their own farm subsidies.

Tanabu thus reiterated Japan's position that agreement on abolishing the subsidies must precede any discussion of a proposed tariffication of farm trade barriers.

The minister made the comments at a news conference regarding reports that the U.S. and the EC were moving toward a subsidy reduction compromise in farm trade talks held under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

Tanabu said both sides appear to be closer to an agreement in general terms but differences remain as far as specifics are concerned.

'Major Blow' Predicted From Farm Subsidies Cut

OW1111104591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1026 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 11 KYODO—Japan's farm policy will suffer a major blow when a proposed cut in government subsidies to rice farmers is endorsed at the GATT-sponsored multilateral trade talks, government sources said Monday.

The sources in the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries said the proposal is gaining support from a growing number of countries participating in the negotiations.

The subsidy to rice farmers to encourage them to switch over to production of other products such as vegetables, wheat, and beat sugar is one of the government's major relief measures for rice growers in the event of rice market liberalization, the sources said.

The government earmarked about 151.1 billion yen to subsidize rice farmers to switch over to other products in the current fiscal year, which ends next march.

The government has been implementing reduction of rice growing acreage while maintaining a policy of self-sufficiency in rice production.

Japan has been resisting external pressure to open its rice market to imports.

The United States and other farm exporting countries have criticized the Japanese policy of subsidizing rice farmers, saying it will help increase competition on the global farm market.

Ministry To Increase Rates for Trade Insurance

OW0911055091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0511 GMT 9 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 9 KYODO—The Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) said Saturday it plans to raise trade insurance rates by an average 30-40 percent, the first increase in three years.

MITI officials said the decision is aimed at preventing the trade insurance fund from draining due to debt relief measures offered to indebted nations.

The officials said modification of insurance rates will be made according to risks in importing nations.

Unlike the previous across-the-board hike in insurance rates three years ago, the ministry will rearrange rates now divided into eight grades according to risks, they said.

The rate for exports to high-risk countries will be raised by 60 percent while that for the lowest risk category will remain unchanged, the officials said.

They said the ministry's insurance fund posted a deficit of 115.[illegible] billion yen in fiscal 1990 becuase of the worsening external debt burden in heavily indebted nations, mostly in Latin America.

The officials said the deficit is expected to bloat further in the current fiscal year due to massive insurance payments made to the Mitsui Group Companies to cover the collapse of a giant petrochemical project in Iran and a 50 percent cut in debt owed to Japan by Poland and Egypt.

Bank Official Fears Drop in Business Confidence

OW0811043891 Tokyo KYODO in English 0353 GMT 8 Nov 91

[Text] Nagoya, Nov. 8 KYODO—A senior Bank of Japan (BOJ) official expressed concern Friday that corporate confidence may be waning as the Japanese economy shows signs of slowing down.

The remark came in a special speech on the opening day of the 13th Asia-Pacific Forex Assembly in Nagoya by Mikio Wakatsuki, an executive director of the BOJ.

Wakatsuki stressed, however, that he has no fears of a sharp decline in economic conditions, and said the central bank is currently watching the effects of the July official discount rate cut and lower market interest rates.

A global version of the annual assembly of foreign exchange dealers was held in Tokyo in 1987 but this is the first time for the Asia-Pacific gathering to be held in Japan.

Including nonregional members from Europe and the United States, some 600 participants from 35 countries are attending the meeting in this central Japan city.

During the two-day meeting, symposiums on international finance and currency transactions will be held. Martin Feldstein, former chairman of the U.S. President's Council of Economic Advisers, is scheduled to make a speech.

Survey Gives Miyazawa 55 Percent Approval Rating

OW0811115891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1049 GMT 08 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 8 KYODO—Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa has a public popularity rating of 55 percent despite his highly unpopular appointment of scandal-tainted legislators to his cabinet and ruling party posts, according to a KYODO NEWS SERVICE poll.

Miyazawa's rating compares with 59 percent for former Premier Noboru Takeshita and 58 percent for former Premier Zenko Suzuki in polls conducted immediately after the inaugurations of their cabinets.

Miyazawa's popularity rating all but mirrored the 57 percent for his immediate predecessor Toshiki Kaifu in a poll conducted about a month before Kaifu quit his post.

The latest poll was conducted Wednesday and Thursday in the form of telephone interviews with 1,000 people across the country immediately after the inauguration of the new cabinet.

The KYODO poll showed 25 percent do not support Miyazawa, who took office Tuesday after his election as president of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP).

Some 23 percent of the respondents said they support the new premier mainly because of his renowned expertise on foreign policy, while 14 percent cited his economic policy.

Only 14 percent attributed their support to trust in the integrity of the premier, while 32 percent said they support Miyazawa merely because there are no other LDP leaders they believe suitable for the post.

Fully 64 percent of the respondents expressed anger at the appointments of politicians tainted by the Recruit and Lockheed scandals to the cabinet and top party posts.

The two scandals had sidelined more than a dozen senior LDP politicians from key political posts under the Kaifu administration.

Only 13 percent said they are not bothered about the controversial appointments, while 23 percent said they are "neutral" on the matter.

Breaking down the supportive group by category, about three- quarters of long-time LDP supporters voiced support for Miyazawa, while as many as 43 percent of long-time supporters of the No. 1 opposition Social Democratic Party (SDP) also threw their weight behind him.

But 58 percent of the respondents blasted the heavy involvement in the selection process of cabinet members by powerbrokers of the biggest LDP faction founded by Takeshita.

On the other hand, 38 percent said they felt there was nothing that could be done about such interventions.

About two-thirds of the respondents said they believe the faction's control over the Miyazawa administration will continue unabated.

By party, 51 percent of the respondents expressed their support for the LDP, 16 percent for the SDP, 6 percent for the Komeito party, 4 percent for the Japanese Communist Party, and 3 percent for the Democratic Socialist Party.

Asked to comment on the poll results, Chief Cabinet Secretary Koichi Kato said, "the higher-than-expected popularity rating bolsters the spirit of the administration. The results appear to reflect citizens' support for Miyazawa's foreign and economic policies."

Kato, himself one of the politicians sidelined by the recruit affair, denied allegations that a slight decline in the popularity rating of the LDP itself from the appointments of scandal-tainted LDP legislators.

Steelmakers To Adopt Childcare Leave Programs

OW0911102291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0713 GMT 9 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 9 (KYODO)—Japan's five major steelmakers have notified their labor unions of their intention to allow childcare leave of up to one year to parents of newborn infants, company officials said Saturday.

The policy will go into effect next spring, they said.

The five firms are Nippon Steel Corp., NKK Corp., Kawasaki Steel Corp., Sumitomo Metal Industries Ltd., and Kobe Steel Ltd.

The firms will introduce the system in April when the government's childcare law takes effect. The law ensures parents of newborn infants a one-year leave of absence from work without fear of dismissal.

Some firms in the textile and electrical machinery industries have already introduced similar programs at their companies.

But the incorporation of such a program by leading steel concerns will probably spur other industries to do the same because of the steel industry's powerful influence over labor and wage issues, industry sources said.

The five firms will allow both men and women to take a leave of absence for up to one year without any pay.

However, the companies will pay for their employees' pensions and social insurance.

Poll Shows Workers Favor Reducing Working Hours

OW0911100091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0926 GMT 9 Nov 91

[Text] Tokyo, Nov. 9 (KYODO)—As deaths through overwork known as "karoshi" increase in Japan, three out of five Japanese favor reducing working hours, according to a government poll released Saturday.

The poll showed 61.7 percent favor a cut in annual working hours from the present 2,044 hours, up sharply from 48.8 percent in a similar poll in 1986. The poll is conducted every five years.

Results of the poll, released by the Prime Minister's Office, showed 13.6 percent of the respondents want working hours to be cut to corresponding levels in Germany and France.

The survey said 48.1 percent favor cutting working hours to the government target of 1,800 hours a year.

While there are no official figures on those who die from overwork and stress, specifically cardiovascular disease, officials say the problem is growing as Japanese companies struggle to keep abreast of a severe labor shortage. Karoshi, first pinpointed as a problem in the late 1970's, apparently resulted in 777 compensation claims filed in 1989 for cardiovascular disease, the officials said.

The latest poll, conducted in July, covered 5,000 men and women aged 20 or older, picked at random nationwide. Of the total, 75.4 percent responded to the poll.

According to Labor Ministry statistics, annual Japanese working hours averaged 2,044 hours in fiscal 1990 ended last March, compared with 1,646 in France and 1,636 in Germany.

A Labor Ministry official said, "The government welcomes a new trend in which an increasing number of citizens call for shorter working hours. We will consider how to respond to this new trend."

The poll showed that 41.3 percent favored a cut in working hours even if it lead to lower incomes, up from 27.5 percent in 1986, while 26.3 percent preferred higher incomes rather than less working hours.

Mongolia

Great Hural Debates Name Change, Constitution

OW1111135491 Beijing XINHUA in English 1327 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, November 11 (XINHUA)—The Great People's Hural of Mongolia convened here today for second session of its 12th conference to debate the country's new constitution.

Participants will discuss whether the country should change its name from "The People's Republic of Mongolia" to "Mongolia", whether it should take on a parliamentary system and the question of land ownership.

Jambaldorjiyn Urtnasan, a veterinarian born in 1942 and a member of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, was today elected as new chairman of the Great Hural.

Elected as vice chairmen were D. Manday from the Social Democratic Party, Nyamjab Batbayar from the National Progress Party and Tomor Jagay and C. Lohuudz from the People's Revolutionary Party.

Mongolia published in June a new draft constitution under which the name of the country would be changed to Mongolia, the country would take on a system of the three branches of power and the supreme organ of state power would be the Great Hural (parliament).

The majority of the public opposed the name change and would prefer presidential rule.

However, the second house, the Small Hural, insisted upon the name change and a parliamentary system, after debate in September.

Observers said the present conference would see heated debate on the problems, and a critical evaluation was expected on the performance of the Mongolian Government and the Small Hural.

PRC Government Donates 1,000 Tons of Rice

OW1211033591 Beijing XINHUA in English 1311 GMT 7 Nov 91

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, November 7 (XINHUA)—A shipment of 1,000 tons of rice from the Chinese Government has arrived in Ulaanbaatar as part of a shipment of goods promised to the people of Mongolia by China.

Mongolia and China today held a handing-over ceremony in honor of the event.

Among those present at the ceremony were vice minister of trade and industry of Mongolia, U. Barsbold, the Chinese ambassador to Mongolia, Zhang Delin, and other Chinese officials.

At the handing-over ceremony, Barsbold pointed out that the donation of goods and materials goes one step further in proving the strong and friendly neighborly ties between the two countries. Mongolia will directly distribute the Chinese donations throughout the country, he added.

Ambassador Zhang said in his address that the donation embodies the spirit of friendship between China and Mongolia and he hoped the shipment of goods and materials would be of some help in overcoming Mongolia's current economic difficulties.

The shipment of goods to Mongolia comes on the heels of Chinese President Yang Shangkun's visit to Mongolia in August this year when President Yang announced the Chinese Government's decision to donate food, light industrial products, medicines as well as other goods to Mongolia.

North Korea

'Full Text' of Kim Il-song 26 Sep Interview

SK1211091091 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Report on interview with Kim Il-song, DPRK president, by Ryosuke Yasue, president of Japan's Iwanami Shoten publiishers on 26 September in Pyongyang—read by announcer]

[Text] The answers given by the great leader President Kim Il-song to questions raised by Ryosuke Yasue, director of the Iwanami Shoten publishers of Japan on September 26, 1991 were carried by the December issue of Japanese magazine SEKAI.

Follows the full text of the answers:

I would like to bid you a hearty welcome to our country. You have come to visit our country again at a time when understanding between the Korean and Japanese peoples is growing deeper and the two peoples are raising their voices louder than ever for normal diplomatic relations between Korea and Japan. I am very pleased to meet you, an old friend of mine, and talk with you again after six years since we met last.

I shall now answer your questions.

Question: Today everyone keenly feels that mankind finds itself in the midst of the age of a great change.

I believe that this is an age of vortex which goes beyond the change in the international order after the Second World War and in which the close of the 20th Century and the turn of the modern society are coming together.

Your Excellency Esteemed President, you are an unequalled, pre-eminent statesman who, as the great leader of your nation ever since the end of the Second World War, has experienced the changes in international politics.

Your Excellency President, what is your view on this age of vortex and how do you look into the future?

Answer: Many changes are taking place in the world today. The relations of East-West confrontation that continued, centering on the two superpowers, since the end of the Second World War have been dissolved, new multilateral international relations are being formed, and the political situation of the world is becoming very complex. Sometimes unexpected events occur in succession. Generally speaking, this can be called a passing vortex of history which has appeared in the course of humanity's advance towards a new world of independence.

In order to make a correct estimate of the present age, it is necessary to see the process of historical development in its whole context, and to see the essence, not the phenomena alone. To my regret, some people are interpreting the disintegration of the system of cold war between East and West and the frustration of socialism in some countries as the victory of the old over the new in their struggle and as a change in the direction of historical current. They are mistaken. There may be setbacks in the course of historical advance, but the direction of historical progress cannot change.

Leading an equally happy life in a free and peaceful world, without domination, subjugation, aggression and war, is mankind's ideal which is derived from the social nature of independent man, and aspiring to such a world is the basic trend of historic development. Just as man's social nature is immutable, so the ideal of mankind is also immutable and so is the direction of historic development. When we say that the present age is the age of change, an age of vortex, we should see it as a turn to a new world of independence and as an upheaval to bring about such an alteration.

Mankind not only aspires to the free and peaceful world but also is creating by itself the social and material conditions for building such a new world. Today no one approves of the old order of domination and subjugation trampling upon man's independence, and it is rejected everywhere as the legacy of the old age. The rapid development of modern science and technology and the result of the people's creative labour provide full possibilities for mankind to build a free and peaceful new world and to lead an equally happy life in that world. Nevertheless, mankind's aspiration to independence and its efforts to translate it into reality have now encountered an immense obstacle and challenge.

The structure of the cold war of the past caused by the confrontation between superpowers is crumbling, but old forces of imperialism remain as they are, and the imperialists are pursuing as ever the wild ambition for world supremacy. They are trying openly to lord it over as the only dominator of the world, while maintaining the old order of domination and subjugation on the strength, above all, of their military preponderance. Violence is the last resort of imperialism. The reactionary nature of imperialism, as the old force which is running counter to the trend of the new age, is now being revealed all the more nakedly.

History will advance. Its current will never turn back because of an obstacle that stands in its way. The masters of the world are none other than the masses of the people, and they also propel historical progress. We must not feel disappointed or hesitate at changes on the historic scene on the eve of the 21st Century; we must advance with a firm confidence in the approach of a bright future of mankind, and pave the way for historical progress by believing in the strength of the popular masses and relying on them. History will advance eventually along the path of independence and peace and the people's cause of independence will emerge victorious without fail.

Question: I think that the Korean nation's cause for reunification is now entering a new stage in which new feasibilities for its realization are visible.

I believe that this is because the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has always regarded national reunification as its supreme task and has conducted all its activities in line with this task.

I admire this.

In addition, voices which are convinced of Korea's reunification and demand its realization are being raised louder as a result of a certain degree of democracy having been realized in South Korea along with the changes in international politics.

Nevertheless, no great advance has yet been actually made. What is the reason? The consistent stand of your state receives full approval. And for this reason there is also a voice demanding bold concession and improvement measures for greatly advancing the negotiations between North and South Korea.

Will you please once again tell me about your opinion of the principles of Korea's reunification, the detailed plan for its realization and the obstacles to it?

Answer: Our party and the Government of our Republic have always regarded national reunification as the most important and pressing national task and made every effort to realize it. The fundamental principles we have consistently maintained in the struggle for national reunification are the three principles of independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity. On the basis of these principles, we have put forward many reasonable proposals for the settlement of the question of national reunification.

With the growth of democratic forces in South Korea and new changes taking place in the international relations, the South Korean people as well as overseas compatriots have understood more deeply the consistent stand of our party and the Government of our Republic and the justice of the plan for national reunification; they are turning out in the struggle for national reunification more resolutely as days go by. Now among the people living in the North and South as well as in foreign countries the barrier of division has virtually crumbled and national reconciliation and unity has been achieved. Thus, the pan-national motive force for reunifying the country is being strongly built. The people are not to blame on any account for making no greater advance in the settlement of the question of our national reunification.

Failure to make further progress in this matter is due to the wrong attitude of those who are trying to keep the country divided forever, clinging to the old way of thinking in the age of cold war. The people consider that, when the country is reunified, they will lose nothing but the barrier of division. But those who are for the division of the country are afraid of losing their ruling position if the country is reunified. So they are laying artificial obstacles and difficulties in the way of national reunification.

The question of our country's reunification is not a question of one side conquering the other or being conquered by the other; it is a question of linking the national ties of blood which have been severed by foreign forces and establishing the sovereignty of our nation throughout the country. That is why great national unity should be achieved in order to realize national reunification, and the interests and demands of individual classes and strata within the nation should be subordinated to those of the whole nation. In addition, all activities of the entire nation should be directed to achieving the cause of national reunification. From such principled standpoint, we hold that national reunification should be realized as soon as possible through the great unity of our nation, transcending the differences in idea, system, class, strata, and religious belief.

Although the North and the South of Korea have entered the UN separately, not with a single seat in accordance with our just stand aspiring to national reunification, but there is no change in our stand that Korea is one and will be reunified as one nation without fail. In future, too, we will continue to hold fast to the stand of national independence and the principle of the great national unity and make persevering efforts to realize national reunification by means of confederation on the basis of one nation, one state, two systems and two governments.

Question: Your Excellency President, you have long pointed out that the improvement of relations between Korea and the United States is very important in achieving the reunification of the Korean nation and in ensuring new security in the Far East.

It is reported that measures are being sought between Korea and the United States in recent years.

Do you not have any intention to open concrete negotiations with the United States at present when the cold war system is breaking down? What are the conditions for the improvement of relations between Korea and the United States?

Answer: Our Republic has made tireless efforts to improve the relations between Korea and the United States. That is because the United States is directly responsible for the division of Korea, and the settlement to the question of our national reunification is closely related to the U.S. policy towards Korea.

It is a common knowledge that the division of Korea started with the U.S. military occupation of South Korea and the danger of war has been growing on the Korean peninsula and great obstacles have been laid to national reunification because the U.S. has turned South Korea into a nuclear military base.

From the viewpoint of principle of justice in the international community, the present Korea-U.S. relations are unequal.

Our Republic has never encroached upon the interests of the United States, nor can it do so. It is the United States that has always forced her will on us unilaterally; we have never imposed our will on the United States.

At the time when the two superpowers were opposed to each other, the United States could put up an excuse that it was necessary to use South Korea as a military base against communism; however, nowadays even this excuse is lost. Despite the fact, the United States, as ever, keeps her nuclear military base in South Korea and threatens our Republic militarily. Nevertheless, the United States insists that the Korean question is for settlement between North and South of Korea and is trying to evade her responsibility for its settlement. That is a wrong attitude which can convince nobody today.

As we have already said, there are large and small countries and developed and less developed nations in the world, but there should be no higher and lower countries nor predominating and dominated nations. We believe that time has come when the United States must change her policy towards Korea. The American people are now demanding it and it accords with the interests of the American and Korean peoples and with the common aspirations of the world people.

If the United States, in accordance with the trend of the times, reexamines her Korea policy and helps Korea's reunification, she will be welcomed by the Korean and world people, and a new phase will be opened in improving the relations between Korea and the United States.

Recently contacts have been made between Korean and U.S. diplomats and they can exchange their views each other, though in a limited scope. [sentence as heard] I think it is a good thing. We hope that the contacts between Korean and U.S. diplomats which have already been made will develop into dialogue for the settlement of the question of signing a peace agreement and other basic questions existing between Korea and the United States.

Question: The question of the so-called nuclear inspection of your country is arousing international concern since it is related to the establishment of the Japan-Korea and Japan-U.S. relations.

I am very doubtful of the fact that the Japanese Government has placed this issue on the main agenda in the talks for normalizing Japan-Korea relations and that some media support it.

Japan must strive to demand the denuclearization of the North and South of Korea and Japan itself. It is obviously wrong for Japan to insist on this issue unilaterally over the bilateral question between Japan and Korea.

You have already put forward a non-nuclear policy of your country time and again and clarified the plan for turning the Korean peninsula into a nuclear free, peace zone.

President, what do you think of the issue of nuclear inspection in this connection?

Answer: The Democratic People's Republic of Korea is a non-nuclear state. Proceeding from the noble desire to remove the danger of nuclear war from the Korean peninsula and ensure the peace and security of Asia and the rest of the world, the government of our Republic has advanced a proposal for turning the Korean peninsula into a nuclear free, peace zone and has made positive efforts for its realization.

We have no intention to develop nuclear weapons and have no ability to do so. Therefore we have no objection to nuclear inspection. What we are against is not the nuclear inspection itself, but the unreasonable attitude of some people who are trying to impose nuclear inspection on us unilaterally contrary to international justice. We have never put nuclear threat to anyone but, instead, we are exposed to nuclear threat. It is no secret that more than 1,000 U.S. nuclear weapons are actually deployed in South Korea. Therefore, if a fair nuclear inspection is to be carried out, it should be made not only on us, but also on the nuclear bases in South Korea.

An attempt of some countries to impose nuclear inspection on us is a flagrant encroachment on the sovereignty of our country. By nature, nuclear inspection is not a matter to be dealt with under any international pressure; it is a matter for us to settle independently with the International Atomic Energy Agency. Independence is the lifeblood of an independent and sovereign state. It is self-evident that a country which regards independence as its lifeblood cannot tolerate and accept the pressure of other countries which is aimed at meddling in its internal affairs.

Nuclear inspection is not a matter to be discussed at the talks for the normalization of Korea-Japan diplomatic relations. It is wrong for Japan desirous of establishing friendly relations with our country to try to bring pressure upon us in tune with the unjustified demand of outside forces, far from being sympathetic with and giving support to our country which is in the position of a victim exposed to a constant nuclear menace.

As we are not opposed to nuclear inspection, this issue will be settled spontaneously if unreasonable pressure on us is removed and impartiality is ensured.

Question: The door to the normalization of Japan-Korea relations has just opened as a result of the publication of the joint declaration of the three parties. That is what we eagerly hoped for many years. Nevertheless, I, as a Japanese, am very apprehensive because the Japanese attitude lacks sincerity and self- determination to redress their historical errors.

Your Excellency President, you have been optimistic about the prospects, saying that nothing can hinder the negotiation for Japan-Korea normal relations.

What do you think is important for quick success in the negotiation?

I will be thankful to you if you show me practical questions.

Your Excellency Esteemed President, please tell the Japanese people what you want to say to them in today's reality in which hopes and stagnation are mixed.

Answer: The normalization of Korea-Japan relations are an important pressing matter both in view of the desires and the interests of our two peoples and the trend of developing world situation. That is why the Workers' Party of Korea, the Liberal Democratic Party of Japan and the Japan Social Democratic Party proposed and adopted the joint declaration of the three parties, which enjoys great welcome and sympathy from our two peoples and the world's peace-loving people.

The joint declaration of the three parties shows the essence of the problem of normalization of Korea-Japan relations and the principle of solving this question, and we have already clarified them many times.

Our Republic, which makes independence, peace and friendship the basic ideas of its foreign policy, desires the normalization of the relations with Japan, a next-door neighbour which has historically deep relations. This is quite natural. I fought Japanese imperialism for many years to liberate our nation. But I have never opposed the Japanese people.

In the past there were Japanese friends who supported the just struggle of our people and there are many such friends today too. I highly esteem the just activities of such Japanese friends.

The starting point in the settlement of the question of Korea-Japan relations lies in that Japan sincerely repents of her past wrong. In order to get on well with each other and further develop their relations, individuals or countries must reflect on their wrong past and learn a lesson from it. I consider that it is because Japan negated her aggressive militarist policy of the past and made a new start that she, a defeated country, could be reconstructed and developed rather rapidly after the war. I think, therefore, that in order to make a new development as an economic power Japan should not repeat her wrong past in her relations with other countries too but reflect on it and develop the relations of genuine friendship.

There is a Korean saying that one can know ten from one. The progressive people of Asia and the rest of the world will watch with what idea and on what principle Japan will settle the question of normalization of Korea-Japan diplomatic relations and judge a great deal from it. There are not a few far-sighted politicians in Japan. Therefore, we are optimistic about the normalization of Korea-Japan diplomatic relations, as ever believing that Japan will strive to solve satisfactorily the problem from the independent stand, brushing aside foreign interference and obstructions.

Both Korea and Japan are Asian countries and are interested in the common development and prosperity of Asia. If the peoples of Korea and Japan which are neighbours geographically with a sea in between and which have great potentials, understand each other and make joint efforts, they will be able to contribute greatly to the Asian people's common cause of building a new, free and peaceful Asia.

I hope that the Korean and Japanese peoples will unite and cooperate with each other for the peace and prosperity of Asia. And I would like to avail myself of this opportunity to extend my warm greetings to the Japanese people.

Foreign Ministry on South's Antinuclear Proposal

SK1211143591 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1200 GMT 12 Nov 91

["News statement" issued on 12 November by DPRK Foreign Ministry spokesman on South Korean 8 November denuclearization declaration—read by announcer]

[Text] Removing the danger of nuclear war and ensuring durable peace on the Korean peninsula are becoming all the more urgent. The United States is now making a big row, raving in connection with our nonexistent nuclear development about forcible inspection on nuclear facilities and a military attack. We cannot but regard this as an act of intentionally further aggravating the situation in Korea and Asia. The government of our Republic has been making every sincere effort to defend peace and remove the nuclear menace on the Korean peninsula. We have already made an epochal proposal for the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula in June 1986. Last July we proclaimed a new proposal for denuclearization, making the previous proposal even more specific.

In the fourth round of the North-South high level talks, we proposed a declaration for denuclearization of the Korean peninsula. These proposals of ours are evoking the world's broad support and consensus. Now it depends entirely on the United States and the South Korean authorities whether the danger of nuclear war is to be removed and peace ensured on the Korean peninsula.

The United States some time ago admitted that it has deployed its nuclear weapons in South Korea for actual combat purposes and expressed its position to withdraw them. We welcomed this and made it clear that if the United States actually withdraws nuclear weapons from South Korea, it will allow for our signing of the nuclear safeguards agreement as well.

The South Korean person in authority, pressed by the rapid development of the situation, issued a so-called declaration on denuclearization on 8 November, stating that he was making an important decision. It is needless to explain that this declaration was worked out according to the scenario written by the United States. If the United States intends to truly resolve the nuclear issue in Korea, it should negotiate directly with us. It should not avoid responsibility by using its servant and proxy.

The denuclearization declaration that the South Korean person in authority offered is nothing new in essence. We regard it as noteworthy that the South Korean person in authority, who desperately opposed the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula at the mere mention of it, stated that he favors denuclearization, though perfunctorily, and accepted even a very small part of the denuclearization proposal that we have already advanced. However, as world opinion appraises it fairly, this declaration mentions nothing about the withdrawal of the U.S. nuclear weapons, the key issue of the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula. Mentioning the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula apart from the fundamental issue of it is no more than empty talk. It is a cunning tactic aimed at deceiving others. The United States has deployed numerous nuclear weapons in South Korea. How can one mention the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and ignore this problem?

The United States is beating around the bush, pretending that this issue has nothing to do with it but that it is an issue to be discussed and resolved between the North and the South. The facts clearly and realistically prove that the United States is raving about our nonexistent development of nuclear weapons to create an excuse for the South Korean authorities' nuclear development and, further, to find an excuse to attack our Republic and overthrow our system. If this were not the case, why should the United States so desperately make a row about our nonexistent nuclear development?

We have neither the intention nor the ability to develop nuclear weapons; therefore, we have no reason for opposing nuclear inspection. We have stated this repeatedly. The United States and the South Korean authorities should not make empty talk about the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula but take practical steps for it.

Now that the U.S. authorities have said that they will withdraw their tactical nuclear weapons from South Korea, they should precisely make public the types and number of the weapons, state a schedule for the withdrawal soon, and take the step of comprehensively and completely withdrawing them of all types from South Korea.

We strongly maintain that nuclear inspection should not be made unilaterally on us alone, but it should be made simultaneously in a fair manner on the U.S. nuclear bases in South Korea.

What we absolutely oppose is not the nuclear inspection itself on us. It is the act of the United States, which tries to unilaterally impose nuclear inspection on us alone, thereby attempting to encroach on our sovereignty. If the United States does not have an ax to grind, it should agree to our proposal for denuclearization, and then all problems will be resolved.

The DPRK Government considers that the negotiations between our country and the United States should be held at an early date over the issue of establishing nuclear-free zone on the Korean peninsula. The South Korean person in authority should accept the declaration on denuclearization that we offered at the North-South high level talks, instead of uttering empty words about denuclearization.

12 November 1991
Pyongyang.

No Tae-u Nuclear Proposal Called 'Sham'

SK1011034391 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0020 GMT 10 Nov 91

[NODONG SINMUN 10 November commentary: "The Gesture of Empty Words by a Stooge of a Nuclear War"]

[Text] On 8 November, South Korean puppet No Tae-u at Chongwadae made a so-called decisive announcement on turning the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone. In the announcement, saying that he was declaring the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, he advertised that South Korea will not manufacture, possess, stockpile, deploy, or use nuclear weapons; that it will accept an international inspection of so-called nuclear materials and facilities; and that it will make efforts for peace free from nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction. He made absurd remarks, urging the North to take a corresponding measure.

Even though No Tae-u said that he would make a decisive decision to turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone, he did not utter a word about the U.S. nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea or their nuclear base.

As the world knows, the nuclear danger on the Korean peninsula comes from South Korea where the U.S. nuclear weapons have been deployed for a real war, not from the North which does not possess nuclear weapons. If the United States had not deployed nuclear weapons in South Korea, the issue of turning the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone would never have raised.

The U.S. nuclear weapons in South Korea are a root from which springs forth the danger of a nuclear war on the Korean peninsula. They are the greatest threat to our people and the rest of the Asian people. The issue of nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula precisely means the issue of withdrawing the U.S. nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea.

No Tae-u's denuclearization declaration ignored the issue of withdrawing the U.S. nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea, which is a key to settling the issue of nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula. Thus, his declaration is nothing but an open boast and the gesture of empty words that are not worthy of consideration at all.

No Tae-u does not utter a word about removing the U.S. nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea for a real war. This shows that he tries as ever to render our people U.S. nuclear hostages and victims of a nuclear war. This clearly exposes the No Tae-u ring's sycophantic, traitorous, and antipeace behavior of stationing the U.S. nuclear [as heard] in South Korea; of prolonging No Tae-u's life under the U.S. umbrella as a reward for being watchman of the U.S. nuclear weapons; and of being indifferent to risking a nuclear holocaust for the country and fellow countries.

No Tae-u hurriedly announced the declaration, which has no actual meaning. This cannot but be interpreted as other than a contemptible maneuver for diverting the attention at home and abroad onto the issue of conducting a nuclear inspection against us. This is because he is faced with the strong antinuclear and peace offensive of all fellow countrymen in the North, South, and overseas and the world peace-loving people who are demanding that the U.S. nuclear weapons be withdrawn from South Korea. Thus he has been driven into a corner.

In a so-called decisive declaration, No Tae-u raved that the issue of nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula should be independently settled between the partners concerned, the North and the South. This is an impudent remark of the puppets, who are under the U.S. nuclear umbrella and persistently begging for it. The master of the nuclear weapons in South Korea is the United States. The South Korean puppets are nothing but a servant drawing the cart of the U.S. nuclear war.

As shown in the fourth round of the North-South high-level talks, the South Korean authorities, saying that they support the U.S. position of neither confirming nor denying the presence of the nuclear weapons shipped into South Korea, said that they could neither tell whether U.S. nuclear weapons are in South Korea nor, if there are nuclear weapons, how many there are in South Korea. If they do not know how many foreign nuclear weapons have been introduced into their own land, how can they have the face to discuss with us the issue of nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula?

The No Tae-u ring has no knowledge of the U.S. nuclear weapons shipped into the South Korea and has no right to push the button of the nuclear weapons. Therefore, No Tae-u is not qualified to talk about the issue of negotiating with us over nuclear weapons. No Tae-u, who is not qualified, presumptuously talked about the issue of independently settling the issue of nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula between the partners concerned, the North and the South. This is nothing but an awkward trick aimed at stationing the nuclear weapons by excluding from the agenda the discussion of the U.S. nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea.

Traitor No Tae-u took issue with us while talking about carrying out an international duty and accepting a nuclear inspection. In connection with this, our position is clear. Our Republic's government is ready to sign [*choin*] the nuclear safeguard accords according to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty and does not object to allowing a nuclear inspection. The point is that the U.S. nuclear threat to us still has not been removed. As we have repeatedly declared, we have no nuclear weapons. We have no intention or ability to develop nuclear weapons.

If a nuclear inspection should be conducted, instead of unilaterally inspecting us who possesses no nuclear weapons, the U.S. nuclear base in South Korea should be opened and an international inspection of it should be conducted at the same time.

If No Tae-u has even a little bit of concern about his fellow countrymen's fate and really wants to turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone, prior to talking about a nuclear inspection of we who possess no nuclear weapons, he should take issue with the approximately 1,000 pieces of U.S. nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea and he should demand a nuclear inspection of them.

Without uttering a single word about the U.S. nuclear weapons densely deployed in South Korea, No Tae-u demands that we carry out an international duty. This proceeds from an impure goal of keeping the U.S. nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea and of making a pretext of developing the South side's nuclear weapons.

Now, voices demanding that the Korean peninsula be turned into nuclear-free zone are rising everywhere in the world. Turning the Korean peninsula, where the danger of a nuclear war is heavily continuing, into a nuclear-free zone is an urgent and mature demand that brooks no further delay.

Representing the unanimous desire of the fellow countrymen and the demand of the times, at the fourth round of the North-South high-level talks we offered the proposal that a declaration on turning the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone be agreed upon and adopted.

The draft of the declaration includes the issue that the North and the South will not test, manufacture, introduce, possess, or use nuclear weapons; the issue that the North and the South will prohibit the deployment and passage of nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula and in Korean territory; the issue that the North and the South will not conduct any war exercise under the simulated condition of a nuclear war; and the issue that the North and the South will jointly verify the total and complete withdrawal of the U.S. nuclear weapons and the removal of nuclear bases in the South of the Korean peninsula, discharge the duty of simultaneous nuclear inspection as required by the international treaty, and publish at home and abroad the declaration on the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

The South Korean authorities should not resort to a sham through empty words. They should not hesitate to accept our aboveboard and reasonable proposal. If the South Korean authorities persistently leave South Korea to the U.S. nuclear stockpile and nuclear forward base and go toward the road of kicking off a nuclear war, they cannot avoid the curse and denunciation of the people at home and abroad.

Papers Reject No Tae-u Denuclearization Proposal

*SK1011085191 Pyongyang KCNA in English
0820 GMT 10 Nov 91*

[Text] Pyongyang November 10 (KCNA)—Papers here today comment on the "important announcement" on the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula made by No Tae-u of South Korea at "Chongwadae" on November 8.

Declaring the "denuclearization" of the Korean peninsula, No said "South Korea will not manufacture, possess, stockpile, deploy or use nuclear weapons", will accept an "international inspection" of nuclear substances and facilities and it "aspires after peace" free from nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction. And he "urged the North to take corresponding steps".

A NODONG SINMUN analyst says that No Tae-u, in what he called a "momentous decision for the denuclearization" of the Korean peninsula, made no mention about the nuclear weapons and nuclear bases of the United States in South Korea.

The analyst continues:

This shows that he still intends to reduce the Korean nation to a nuclear hostage of the United States and a victim of a nuclear war. This also fully exposes the flunkeyist, anti-peace nature of the No Tae-u group which is prolonging its days under the protection of the United States by keeping the U.S. nuclear weapons in South Korea and standing guard over them, and cares little about the nuclear holocaust that might be inflicted upon the country and the fellow countrymen.

No Tae-u hurriedly released the insignificant "declaration" with a base trick to call the public attention at home and abroad to the question of "nuclear inspection" of the North, driven into a corner by the powerful anti-nuke, peace offensive of the entire fellow countrymen in the North, the South and overseas and the world peaceloving people demanding the withdrawal of the U.S. nuclear weapons from South Korea.

In his "important announcement" No said the nuclear problem on the Korean peninsula should be "solved independently between the North and the South". It is an obtrusive rigamarole of the puppets who are under the "nuclear protection" of the United States and are persistently entreating for it.

The No group which is none other than a servant drawing the United States' nuclear war chariot is not entitled to talk about "nuclear negotiations" with the North.

This notwithstanding, No cried for an "independent settlement of the nuclear problem on the Korean peninsula between the North and the South". This is nothing but a ham-handed ruse to keep the U.S. nuclear weapons in South Korea by excluding them in the debate.

The traitor No also urged the North to "discharge its international obligation" and "accept a nuclear inspection". Our position on these matters is clear.

The DPRK Government is ready to sign the nuclear safeguards accord under the nuclear non-proliferation treaty anytime and does not oppose a nuclear inspection.

The problem is that the U.S. nuclear threat to our republic still exists.

If No Tae-u has the least interest in the destiny of the fellow countrymen and truly wants denuclearization of the Korean peninsula, he should have taken issue with more than 1,000 U.S. nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea and called for a nuclear inspection of them, before urging the North having no nukes to accept a "nuclear inspection".

No made no mention about the U.S. nuclear weapons densely deployed in South Korea and urged the North to "discharge its international obligation". This revealed his sinister intention to maintain the nuclear weapons in South Korea and invent a pretext for nuclear development.

A MINJU CHOSON analyst says that if the South Korean rulers truly want to get the danger of a nuclear war removed from the peninsula, they must not resort to sleight of hand but make efforts for the withdrawal of the U.S. nuclear weapons from South Korea and affirmatively accede to our proposal for the adoption of a "declaration of denuclearization of the Korean peninsula". If they refuse this, they will face a stern judgement by the people.

North-South Delegates' Contact Reported

SK1111094091 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0900 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] The first contact between delegates to the fifth round of the North-South high-level talks was held at Tongilgak, our side's area in Panmunjom, at 1000 [0100 GMT] this morning.

Three delegates from each side participated in the meeting, which was held behind closed doors.

At the contact, preparation of a draft of the joint document agreed upon at the fourth round of the North-South high-level talks was discussed.

Both sides agreed to hold the second contact between delegates to the fifth round of the North-South high-level talks on the South side's area in Panmunjom on 15 November.

U.S. Exercises Called 'Reckless War Provocation'

SK1011011991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 2152 GMT 9 Nov 91

["Reckless War Moves Against Detente and Peace"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang November 9 (KCNA)—Tensions are being further aggravated and the danger of war is daily increasing on the Korean peninsula. This is wholly ascribable to the reckless war provocation moves of the U.N. imperialists and the South Korean puppets.

NODONG SINMUN says this in a by-lined article today.

Recalling that the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are staging large-scale military exercises including the "Eagle 91" joint military exercises with the mobilisation of huge aggression forces, turning down the demand of the Korean people and peaceloving people of the world for the relaxation of tensions and for a durable peace on the Korean peninsula, the article says:

The war provocation moves of the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets clearly reveal once again their anti-dialogue, anti-peace and anti-reunification stand.

The war gamble is an unpardonable vicious challenge to us who are making every possible effort for dialogue and detente, peace and reunification.

The United States, styling itself the "sole superpower in the world", has worked out a "new military strategy" for a "new world order" dominated and controlled by it and is trying to realise it on the Korean peninsula before other regions with South Korea as a stronghold. Urged by this desire, the U.S. imperialists are directing the sharp edge on the spearhead of their anti-socialist strategy, the strategy of strength, against our Republic; they are intensifying the political and diplomatic smear campaign against us and are madly stepping up war moves to make a military attack at us. The ruse to keep the U.S. troops and nuclear weapons in South Korea, the constant arms buildup in South Korea, the commitment to leave South Korea under the "nuclear umbrella", unending military provocations in the Demilitarized Zone and such large-scale military exercises as today are links in the whole chain of the new war moves against the North which are being hastened by the U.S. imperialists.

If "dialogue", "detente" and the like on the lips of the United States and the South Korean authorities are true, they must stop such reckless war exercises spoiling the atmosphere of dialogue and aggravating confrontation and take the road of ensuring peace on the Korean peninsula and achieving its reunification.

It is the trend of our times to advance toward detente and peace.

Those who go against this will certainly face judgement by history.

Aerial Reconnaissance by South Condemned

SK0811152791 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1358 GMT 8 Nov 91

[Text] The South Korean puppets perpetrated a grave military provocation by sending radio-controlled airplanes into the sky above the east frontline of the DMZ, thus conducting air reconnaissance.

The South Korean puppets today dispatched four radio-controlled airplanes to conduct air reconnaissance above the east frontline of the DMZ, thus committing a grave military provocation.

The South Korean puppets at about 1900 [1000 GMT] today sent two pilotless planes with aerial cameras into the sky above the east frontline of the DMZ south of Military Demarcation Line [MDL] marker No 1130.

At 1930, they dispatched another radio-controlled airplane above the east frontline of the DMZ southwest of MDL marker No. 1100. At 2045, they dispatched the planes above the DMZ northeast of MDL marker No. 107, which is the central area of the MDL and conducted air reconnaissance against our side's area.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets are conducting the aggressive Foal Eagle 91 joint military exercise, Valiant Blitz. They are also leading the Korean peninsula to the brink of war. In parallel with this, they committed such a military provocation. Therefore, we cannot but consider this to be very serious.

Such indiscriminate military provocation by the South Korean puppets will further increase the danger of war on the Korean peninsula. In addition, this is an intentional and planned provocation and a plot to create an artificial obstacle to the North-South dialogue.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean puppets should have a correct view of reality and act with discretion.

More 'Espionage' by Pilotless Planes Reported

SK0911140491 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1316 GMT 9 Nov 91

[Text] The South Korean puppets conducted aerial espionage again by infiltrating a pilotless, radio-controlled airplane into airspace above the Demilitarized Zone [DMZ] in the east frontline.

The South Korean puppets conducted aerial espionage today by mobilizing a pilotless, radio-controlled airplane into airspace above the DMZ in the east frontline, thus committing a grave military provocation.

At around 1955 today, the South Korean puppets mobilized a pilotless, radio-controlled airplane equipped with cameras into the airspace above the DMZ near Military Demarcation Line [MDL] marker No. 1080 in the east frontline and conducted aerial espionage against us.

The South Korean puppets' repeated reckless military provocations are premeditated provocations designed to artificially aggravate the situation on the Korean peninsula. The South Korean puppets should look straight at the consequences of their military provocations. They should act with discretion.

South Korea

U.S. Proposal for International Talks Opposed

SK1111032291 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 11 Nov 91 p 1

[Text] According to its basic position that direct talks and agreement between the South and North are the only way to settle the Korean peninsula issue, the government has decided against the proposal for international talks, also known as "2 + 4" talks, for settling the Korean peninsula issue.

So, the government has decided not to accept, at least for the moment, U.S. Secretary of State Baker's proposal for settling the Korean peninsula issue through talks among the South and North and the four major countries surrounding the Korean peninsula. These countries are the United States, Japan, China, and the Soviet Union, as specified in the latest issue of FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

If U.S. Secretary of State Baker, who is scheduled to arrive in Seoul on 12 November, officially offers his own proposal, known as "2 + 4" talks, as a way of settling the Korean peninsula issue, the government plans to inform him of such a decision.

Instead, the government reportedly will stress to Secretary Baker that for reunification, the South and North will need help and understanding from the major neighboring countries, but that their help and understanding should play a secondary role in promoting the direct talks and agreement between the South and North. The government will then call on the major neighboring countries of the Korean peninsula, and the United States, to make efforts to create an environment suitable for talks, including efforts to have North Korea agree to international nuclear inspections and open itself up.

A high-ranking government official said on 10 November: The government has consistently maintained that the internationalization of the Korean peninsula issue is not desirable for either the South-North talks or for stability in Northeast Asia. The government does not agree to the "2 + 4" form of talks for settling the Korean peninsula issue proposed recently by the United States and the Soviet Union. In these talks, not only the South and North, but also the major neighboring countries, the United States, Japan, China, and the Soviet Union, are expected to participate.

The government official cited the following as the reason: If the major neighboring countries are allowed to interfere in the settlement of the Korean peninsula issue, the South-North question runs the risk of being settled in a way that suits the major neighboring countries' concerns.

The government official continued: President No Tae-u's proposal for the "Northeast Asia Peace Consultative Conference," advanced at the UN General Assembly session in October 1988, was an economic initiative aimed at seeking the complementary economic role of the six countries that have interests in Northeast Asia. However, the proposal was never aimed at an international conference focusing on political and security issues, such as have been discussed recently.

The government official said: The international forum known as "2 + 4" talks, which made East and West German reunification possible, was necessary, because at that time the two Germanys had the armies of the four major powers—the United States, the United Kingdom, France, and the Soviet Union—stationed on their territories. Thus, approval from these countries was an absolute procedure for reunification. Unlike the case of the two Germanys, however, there is no reason why the four major neighboring countries should interfere in reunification of the Korean peninsula.

U.S. Trade Representative Discusses IPR Issues

SK1111090891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0811 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 11 (OANA-YONHAP)—U.S. Trade Representative Carla Hills declined to comment directly on the opening of South Korea's rice market in a meeting Monday with Trade and Industry Minister Yi Pong-so, instead addressing intellectual property rights [IPR].

She said Korea and the United States had "good relations" in terms of trade despite problems at the private level, Ministry officials said. Hills arrived Sunday evening to attend the third ministerial meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) here Tuesday to Thursday.

Hills said the Cairns Group, a loose-knit group of major rice exporting nations, and Uruguay Round negotiators made progress in the agricultural sector at a recent meeting in the Hague, suggesting that the multilateral trade talks may be successfully concluded this year, according to the officials.

This was just about the only comment the trade representative made on the Uruguay Round, they said.

Her talks with Yi covered trade issues such as intellectual property rights [IPR] for trade secrets and semiconductors, they said.

The United States demands that Korean laws on IPR protection for semiconductors cover products made with the chips as well.

Korea says its laws should cover only chips.

Reacts 'Negatively' to Rice Proposal

SK1111100191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0857 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 11 (OANA-YONHAP)—U.S. Trade Representative Carla Hills reacted negatively Monday to South Korea's request that rice be excluded from market opening at the Uruguay Round and suggested Seoul find other means to protect its farmers.

Hills had avoided comment on the issue in a meeting with Trade and Industry Minister Yi Pong-so, but she reacted negatively when Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok took up the issue in a later meeting.

If the Uruguay Round allowed each nation one exception, the list would grow and the principle of multilateral negotiations would be rendered useless, Hills was quoted as saying.

Korea should seek slow market opening or other means to protect its farmers, she told Yi.

Yi said the Korean Government was unable to retreat from its stand that rice should be excluded from liberalization and vowed to continue his efforts to the "last minute."

Korea is trying to get the Uruguay Round to recognize non-trade concerns (NTCS) and to include rice on the list.

Opposition Party Criticizes U.S. Demands on Rice

SK1111085191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0616 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 11 (YONHAP)—The opposition Democratic Party on Monday sharply criticized the United States and its trade representative, Carla Hills, for pressuring South Korea to open its rice and other agricultural markets.

In a statement, party spokesman No Mu-hyun said, "The U.S. and Carla Hills' insistence on the establishment of fair trade order is a perfunctory argument which takes no account of economic conditions and difference of each country."

The U.S. position also ignores economic development and survival of developing nations, No said.

He urged the South Korean Government to recognize that opening of the rice and other agricultural markets is a matter of life and death for the nation's economy and resist the U.S. pressure resolutely.

No also called on the government to explain in detail the terms of the U.S. demand to the Korean people.

Hills, who arrived in Seoul on Sunday to discuss bilateral trade issues with Korean Government officials, demanded that Korea open its markets for rice and other agricultural products to help settle the Uruguay Round of global trade negotiations.

Consultation on U.S. Weapons Deployment Sought

SK0911134591 Seoul YONHAP in English 1309 GMT 9 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 9 (YONHAP)—The South Korean Government, as a follow-up measure to cope with the new security situation generated by President No Tae-u's declaration Friday of a "non-nuclear Korean peninsula," is studying a way to settle an institutional device binding the United States to have prior consultations with South Korea on its plans to move to, or deploy in, Korea its weapons, a government source said Saturday.

The source said the government might seek to add a new provision to the defense treaty with the United States that stipulates mutual consultations before the United States works at plans to move or deploy in Korea its weapons connected with nuclear protection.

A separate device could be sought as well, he said.

The existing defense treaty does not have any provision regulating prior consultations on movements of U.S. military equipment in Korea and Korean officials are increasingly feeling the need to make up for the deficiency in preparation for the planned complete withdrawal of all nuclear weapons, the source said.

In the cases of Japan and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the U.S. defense agreements stipulate that the U.S. side have prior consultations with the host countries whenever it is to move its weapons, military aircraft or naval ships in their territories, the source said.

Seoul To Confirm Removal of U.S. Nuclear Arms

SK1011131491 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 10 Nov 91 p 1

[Text] The government plans to confirm the absence of U.S. nuclear weapons in South Korea once their withdrawal is completed, through parliamentary testimonies by either the foreign or the defense minister, a senior government official said yesterday.

"Once the pullout is completed, either the foreign or the defense minister may state that there no longer exist any nuclear arms as they respond to lawmakers' questions on that matter at the National Assembly," said the official on condition of anonymity.

President No Tae-u's national security adviser Kim Chong-hui said Friday [8 November] that when the U.S. nuclear bombs are withdrawn from South Korea, "some steps" may be taken to confirm their absence. He did not elaborate.

The official said Seoul and Washington will soon start negotiations on the schedule of the atomic weapons pullout.

"We have yet to begin negotiations in earnest, but my view is that the withdrawal will be completed in quite a short period," he said.

He did not rule out the possibility that the pullout would begin this year.

On the prospects of North Korea's accepting international inspection of its nuclear facilities, the official said, "The North may change its attitude overnight as it did when it decided to joint the United Nations in May."

The government is studying the various "options" it may take in case the North continues to reject international surveillance of its nuclear facilities, he said.

The options may include bringing the issue to the U.N. Security Council, the official added.

President No declared Friday that South Korea would not manufacture, possess, store, deploy or use nuclear weapons. Calling for a "nonnuclear Korean Peninsula," he urged North Korea to give up its nuclear weapons development program.

No also urged North Korea to renounce the possession of nuclear fuel reprocessing and enrichment facilities. He pledged that the South would not possess such facilities.

No Tae-u Reportedly Writes to Chinese Leaders

SK1211021791 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 12 Nov 91 p 1

[Text] It was learned on 11 November that President No Tae-u had sent a personal letter and a verbal message to paramount Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping and Premier Li Peng concerning the establishment of diplomatic ties between the ROK and China and international efforts to stop North Korea's development of nuclear weapons.

This is the first time that the supreme leader of the ROK or China has sent a personal letter or message to the other. President No's letter could be an epochal turning point in improving ROK-Chinese relations.

It was learned that No Tae-u's letter and verbal message were sent through former U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, who is on friendly terms with the Chinese leaders.

It was also learned that Shultz visited Seoul for three days from 2 November and held talks with President No twice; in particular, he had a long meeting with the president at Chongwadae on the afternoon of 4 November and received President No Tae-u's personal letter and a verbal message for the Chinese leaders. He left the ROK on 5 November.

It was also learned that Shultz visited China via Taiwan last week, met with Premier Li Peng and Deng Xiaoping, and delivered President No Tae-u's messages to them.

In the meantime, it is almost certain that President No will have a one-on-one meeting with Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen at Chongwadae on 14 November. It is expected that the Chinese leaders' response, in whatever form, to President No's messages will be delivered during this meeting. Therefore, this meeting is very noteworthy.

In connection with this, a ROK Government source said: "This has a particular meaning in that for the first time, the supreme leaders of the ROK and China had indirect dialogue in the form of messages." He also said: "This will be an epochal turning point in the development of ROK-Chinese relations because former U.S. Secretary of State Shultz, the messenger, is well acquainted with the Chinese ruling class and is an important figure in international diplomatic circles." This source went on to say: "Since North and South Korea entered the United Nations, the ROK and China have had behind-the-scenes dialogue through various channels, and meaningful progress has been made in some fields as a result. In this way, the two countries have been able to promote mutual understanding and cooperation." He also said: "The indirect dialogue between the supreme leaders of the ROK and China through former U.S. Secretary of State Shultz will most likely serve as an important opportunity to accelerate the normalization of diplomatic relations between the two countries."

This source also added: "The Chinese Government affirmatively assessed President No's declaration on denuclearization of the Korean peninsula. This can be viewed as an example of the changing relations between the two countries."

Chinese Foreign Minister Arrives in Seoul

SK1211061991 Seoul YONHAP in English 0512 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 12 (YONHAP)—Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, the highest-ranking official from Beijing ever to visit South Korea, arrived in Seoul Tuesday afternoon.

Qian and his 18-member delegation left Kimpo International Airport immediately on arrival for the Shilla Hotel, venue of the third ministerial meeting of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation [APEC].

China, Hong Kong and Taiwan are APEC's newest members.

Qian will pay a courtesy call on President No Tae-u at the presidential residence with the other chief delegates from APEC- member countries Tuesday evening and attend a dinner hosted by No.

He is scheduled to meet with Japanese Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe on Wednesday and with Korean Foreign Minster Yi Sang-ok before departing late Thursday.

Holds Private Talks With No Tae-u

SK1211101991 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0900 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Text] President No Tae-u separately received Chinese ministers, such as Qian Qichen, foreign minister, and Li Lanqing, minister of foreign economic relations and trade, at Chongwadae this afternoon and exchanged views of mutual concern to the two countries, including the normalization of ROK-PRC relations.

Yi Su-chong, a Chongwadae spokesman, said that the two sides agreed not to disclose the specific details of the conversation in President No Tae-u's separate meeting with the Chinese ministers that was held immediately after his receiving the delegates from the 15 countries participating in the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation [APEC] ministerial conference.

President No Tae-u, in his 40-minute meeting with the Chinese APEC delegates, including Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, stressed that the North Korean moves for developing nuclear weapons are a great threat to the security of Northeast Asia and requested the Chinese side to help induce North Korea to give up developing nuclear weapons, according to a report.

President No Tae-u is also reported to have stressed the need for normalizing relations between the ROK and China, indicating that the significant increase in people exchanges and trade volume between the ROK and China is a desirable development for the improvement of relations between the two countries.

It seems that the Chinese side also specifically expressed its position on the North Korean moves for developing nuclear weapons and improving ROK-PRC relations. However, no specific details have been disclosed.

Present at the meeting, in which President No Tae-u received Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Li Lanqing, were Yi Sang-ok, foreign minister; Chong Hae-chang, presidential secretary general; Kim Chong-hwi, assistant to the President for Foreign and National Security Affairs, from our side, and three Chinese delegates.

China Said To Support No Tae-u Proposal

SK1011103691 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0800 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Report from Tokyo-based correspondent Chon Yong-ok]

[Text] Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Xu Dunxin said that he highly appraises the declaration for denuclearization of the Korean peninsula announced by ROK President No Tae-u.

In an interview with Japan's TOKYO SHIMBUN at the Chinese Foreign Ministry on 9 November, Vice Foreign

Minister Xu stated that the Chinese Government supports the declaration for denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and hinted at the intention to discuss the issue of accepting nuclear inspection again with North Korea .

He also said that when U.S. Secretary of State Baker visits China on 15 November, the issue of the Korean peninsula will be included in the talks and that the talks are designed for security and peace in Far East Asia.

Vice Foreign Minister Xu revealed that when North Korean President Kim Il-song visited China in October, the issue of nuclear inspection was discussed. He stressed that since the ROK expressed its intention to accept nuclear inspection, North Korea should accept it also.

Vice Foreign Minister Xu suggested that the Korean peninsula's nuclear issue would be the greatest pending issue during the U.S.-China talks slated for 15 November. Xu is widely known as an authority on Asian affairs within the Chinese Foreign Ministry.

Cambodia Seeking To Restore Diplomatic Relations

SK1211093091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0915 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, Nov. 12 (YONHAP)—Cambodia wants to restore diplomatic relations with South Korea at the earliest possible date, the ruling party leader Chea Sim, told YONHAP News Agency Tuesday.

In an exclusive interview at his office at the National Assembly, Chea Sim, general secretary of the People's Revolutionary Party and National Assembly speaker, said he hoped to go to Seoul after visiting Tokyo in December.

Stressing Cambodia has opened its doors to world nations after the Oct. 23 signing of the peace treaty for Cambodia in Paris, he said his country welcomed South Korea "at any time" and was ready to discuss "all sorts of cooperative ties" with Seoul.

South Korea and Cambodia established formal ties in 1970 but severed them in 1975 after the Khmer Rouge grabbed power.

South Korea issued a statement right after the Paris treaty was signed, welcoming the signing and recognizing the Supreme National Council, a grouping of four warring factions headed by Prince Norodom Sihanouk, as the legitimate government of Cambodia.

Asked if the close friendship between Prince Sihanouk and North Korean President Kim Il-song would stand in the way of normalizing ties between Seoul and Phnom Penh, he said such a friendship was only "personal."

Cambodia wanted to contribute to improving relations between South and North Korea by maintaining equidistant policy towards them, Sim said.

He said South Korea, with all its remarkable economic growth, was hoped to positively take part in the rehabilitation of Cambodia.

Cambodia has already given up socialism and has turned to the plural party system and free market economy. "We welcome foreign investment," he said.

No Tae-u's Non-Nuclear Declaration Viewed

SK1111103391 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 9 Nov 91 p 2

[Editorial: "The Ultimate Goal of the Nuclear-Free Zone—The South and North Should Agree on Denuclearizing the Korean Peninsula Before Anything Else"]

[Text] There is no need to say that nuclear weapons are the most dangerous threat to our national survival. No one can deny that a nuclear explosion, whether in war or accidental, is capable of annihilating the population and devastating the national territory. No less threatening to our lives and environment are the nuclear reactors which are supposed to be perfectly safe and accident-free.

At a time when the nuclear issues involving the Korean peninsula are being briskly debated at home and abroad, President No Tae-u made public on 8 November a "Declaration of Non-Nuclear Korean Peninsula Peace Initiatives." It has drawn attention at home and abroad because it is the government's first official stand on nuclear issues ever announced. Until now, our successive regimes have even denied the presence of nuclear weapons on our territory. Even though the United States has almost mocked the Korean people with its policy of neither confirming nor denying the presence of the nuclear weapons it has brought into South Korea via U.S. troops stationed in South Korea, without letting the Korean people know it, those in responsible government offices have been more dishonest than the United States by denying their presence.

President No, although not directly admitting the presence of nuclear weapons in the 8 November declaration, has promised that "we will use nuclear energy only for peaceful purposes and will not produce, possess, store, deploy, or use nuclear weapons," thereby making it clear that the government has formally adopted a non-nuclear policy. If his declaration, which said "we will sincerely enforce the policy of not possessing nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons" and "we will place nuclear facilities and materials completely under international inspections and will not possess nuclear fuel reprocessing and enrichment facilities," is abided by, the ROK will be at once recognized as a non-nuclear country.

We appreciate President No's desire for peace as specified in his declaration. However, we have no choice but to point to the political nature of the declaration and his vague stand on our country's nuclear sovereignty. Calling on North Korea to "take a step corresponding to his declaration," President No made it clear that he wants North Korea to give up the idea of possessing nuclear reprocessing and nuclear fuel enrichment facilities. It is natural for the South and North to take such a course in order to turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone. Nevertheless, the last phrase of the declaration is unrealistic in that only the South and North were asked to be responsible for denuclearization. No one will object to the words that "all the issues concerning the Korean peninsula should be resolved independently by the South and North through direct negotiations between the two sides' authorities." However, it is hard to understand why the United States, the party directly responsible for nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula, was not mentioned in the declaration.

In his briefing on the background against which the non-nuclear policy has been formulated, a Chongwadae official said: "Regardless of the non-nuclear declaration, the U.S. commitment to the defense of Korea, including a nuclear umbrella, remains firm and unchanged." The upshot is that the "nuclear umbrella is not necessarily premised on the deployment of nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula; deterrence coming from outside the boundary is enough, given the highly-developed means to deliver nuclear weapons."

To say that Korea can be protected all of the time under the nuclear umbrella means that, while the Korean Government would not produce or use nuclear weapons, the U.S. troops who hold operational control over the Korean Armed Forces can always bring them into our country and use them at any given time if necessary. North Korea is known to be insisting on denuclearizing the Korean peninsula, pointing out such a possibility.

We understand that North Korea's insistence on turning the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone is the ultimate goal of the Korean people living on the Korean peninsula. However, we also want the North Korean regime to clearly realize that it cannot force it on the party with whom it needs to cooperate for the settlement of the nuclear issues in so short a time. In an exclusive interview given to a HANGYORE SINMUN correspondent based in New York on 4 October, North Korean Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam definitely said: "If nuclear weapons are withdrawn from the South as proposed by President Bush, the North will automatically accept nuclear inspections." North Korea should hold to the words its foreign minister spoke in public.

We hope that the South and North authorities will meet soon to discuss and resolve the nuclear issues, without being influenced by political rhetoric, thereby moving in the direction of denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

South, North Hold Contact at Panmunjom

SK1111061891 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0500 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] In a contact held this morning at Tongilgak in the North side's area of Panmunjom, the delegations of the two sides to the South-North high-level talks negotiated the draft of the agreement on reconciliation, nonaggression, exchanges, and cooperation between the South and North.

In today's contact the South and North explained their respective basic positions on the draft of the agreement that the two sides had agreed to adopt as a single document at the fourth round of the South-North high-level talks held in Pyongyang. They agreed to keep making efforts for the adoption of a single agreement.

In today's contact, the South and North agreed to hold the second contact between the delegations at 1000 on 15 November at the House of Peace in our side's area at Panmunjom to continue negotiations on the draft of the agreement.

South Proposes Nuclear Clause

SK1111092291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0904 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 11 (YONHAP)—South Korea proposed Monday to North Korea that elimination of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons from the Korean peninsula be included in their projected agreement on reconciliation, non-aggression, and exchange and cooperation, a senior South Korean official said.

The proposal, made in the first working-level talks between delegates to the inter-Korean high-level talks in the truce village of Panmunjom on Monday morning, is a follow-up to President No Tae-u's renunciation of nuclear weaponry and reprocessing and enrichment facilities last week.

In the most articulate reference to nuclear issues that South Korea has ever made, No urged North Korea to stop developing nuclear weapons and evading international inspection of its nuclear facilities, declaring that his country "will not manufacture, possess, store, deploy or use nuclear weapons."

His government, opposing all weapons of indiscriminate death, would actively participate in international efforts for total elimination of chemical-biological weapons, he said.

During the closed-door talks Monday, the Southern delegates asked for sincerity from North Korea for resolution of pending issues, aired flexibility concerning the establishment of resident representative offices in Seoul and Pyongyang, and urged mutual opening and exchange of newspapers, radio and television programs, and published materials, the official said.

He said the South was also ready to become more flexible on military confidence-building measures to implement a non-aggression pact, and take practical measures for exchange and cooperation.

"It will be difficult for North Korea to accommodate our call for mutual opening of media programs, with all its jitters about unification in the form of absorption. We will offer concessions under which such opening may take place step-by-step," the official said.

As for the resident representative office, the South was likely to change the title to "liaison office," he said.

South and North Korea decided to produce an agreement on reconciliation, non-aggression, and exchange and cooperation in the fourth round of prime ministers' talks in Pyongyang last month . They will hold the second working-level talks on Friday in the Southern sector of Panmunjom.

'Forcible' Nuclear Inspection of North Advocated

SK1011044291 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0300 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Text] Kim Chin-hyon, minister of science and technology, revealed that if North Korea persistently refuses to accept international nuclear inspection, the government plans to ask for the international community's cooperation in applying a forcible nuclear inspection on North Korea, such as the one the International Atomic Energy Agency conducted in Iraq in accordance with a UN Security Council resolution.

Appearing in KBS-1 Television's "Today's Issue" program, Kim Chin-hyon, minister of science and technology, said this. He said that although suspending the supply of nuclear materials and technology for nuclear facilities to North Korea can be considered the most realistic sanctions measure, this method is unlikely to be borne out because North Korea has uranium sources and the basic technology.

Minister Kim said the government is strengthening cooperation both with our established friendly countries, including the United States, Japan, and Canada, and with countries friendly with North Korea, including the Soviet Union, China, and East Europe countries, in a bid to lead North Korea to rapidly sign the nuclear safeguard accords and to accept nuclear inspection.

North Said To Hold Chemical Warfare Training

SK1011082291 Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean 10 Nov 91 p 2

[Text] In preparation for possible chemical warfare, North Korea is conducting full-dress chemical warfare training, including tactical unit training, and each of the Army corps and division units have facilities for this training.

On 9 November a military source revealed: "North Korea is conducting chemical warfare training. This includes training to combat pollution, chemical reconnaissance training, and tactical unit training. North Korea is equipped with vehicles and facilities for this training. It seems that this is a kind of tactical operational training so that in an emergency, North Korea will be prepared to use its chemical, biological, and radiological weapons."

This source stated: "It was understood that as part of its tactical unit training, North Korea established and is operating a chemical weapons testing ground and an offensive tactical training ground. It was also known that North Korea is holding detoxification training, training on reconnaissance vehicles, and training on detoxification." This source said: "Over 30 kg of chemicals are supplied to every division every year for training."

Japanese Envoy on Relations With DPRK

SK1111131791 Seoul YONHAP in English 1256 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 11 (YONHAP)—Japan will never promote economic exchange or cooperation with North Korea if it refuses to open its nuclear facilities to outside inspection, Japanese Ambassador to South Korea Kenichi Yanagi said Monday.

Discussing matters of bilateral concern with Kim Yong-sam, executive chairman of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party, over dinner at Kim's house, the ambassador said his government would make every effort to let North Korea accept the international inspection of its nuclear facilities.

Kim's chief secretary Rep. Shin Kyong-sik also quoted Yanagi as saying that Tokyo would seek to normalize relations with Pyongyang only when the latter met the international demand for nuclear inspection.

Yanagi made those remarks when Kim explained the background of President No Tae-u's "non-nuclear Korea" policy, Shin said.

North Korea and Japan are scheduled to hold the fifth round of normalization talks Nov. 18-19.

North Korea is believed to be armed with nuclear weapons by the mid-1990s. It joined the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty [NPT] in 1985 but did not sign the International Atomic Energy Agency's nuclear safeguards accord to which an NPT signatory is obliged to subscribe within 18 months of joining.

CPC Head Said To Urge Kim Il-song 'To Adapt'

SK1211102891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0956 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Text] Moscow, Nov. 12 (YONHAP)—Chinese Communist Party General Secretary Jiang Zemin advised North Korean President Kim Il- song to adapt to the changing international climate when they met in Beijing early last month, the Soviet news weekly, EKHO PLANETY, reported in its Nov. 12th editions.

Jiang told Kim that international order was changing towards peace and the trend was an irrevocable current of history. Kim responded with unpleasant silence, the weekly said.

The magazine also said that Chinese Premier Li Peng advised Kim to take reform measures toward a market economy, explaining how China could develop through reform and economic cooperation with other countries.

The Chinese leadership also tried to let high-ranking North Korean officials accompanying Kim understand how much their country was in need of sweeping reform and how retarded Kim's domestic policy was, the weekly said.

Russia To Press North on Nuclear Issues

SK1111100091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0826 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 11 (OANA-YONHAP)—The Russian Republic saw South Korea's renunciation of nuclear weapons in a positive light and would keep pressing North Korea to accept outside inspection of its nuclear facilities, visiting Russian Vice Foreign Minister George Kunadze said Monday.

Russian Parliament President Ruslan Khasbulatov would visit Seoul to boost bilateral ties Dec. 4-7, Kunadze said in meeting with Korean Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok.

It was important not to corner Pyongyang on the nuclear inspection issue, but Russia would keep pressing, Kunadze said.

He arrived here Nov. 8 for consultations on Khasbulatov's trip, which he told Yi would be a good opportunity to strengthen cooperative ties.

V. Lukin, chairman of the Russian Parliament's International Affairs Committee, is due here Nov. 15-17 to discuss a visit by Russian President Boris Yeltsin, Kunadze said.

Germany Denies Helping DPRK Nuclear Program

SK0911060591 Seoul YONHAP in English 0552 GMT 9 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 9 (YONHAP)—The German Government has officially denied a report that a Berlin-based engineering firm sold North Korea a special steel normally used to make containers for radioactive materials, a Foreign Ministry official said Saturday.

"The German Government told the Korean Government through diplomatic channels that it had investigated the allegations made by DER SPIEGEL on Nov. 4 and that they were untrue. The Germans said that what was sold to North Korea was not alloyed silicon steel but alloyed nickel steel plate," the official said, asking that he not be identified by name or title.

The Germans said that export of nickel plate did not violate regulations of the Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls (Cocom) that ban the sale of sensitive materials to Communist countries or the laws of Germany, the official said.

The German news magazine, quoting from a report from the Bundesnachrichtendienst (Federal Intelligence Office), said the Leis Engineering Co. had exported the steel to North Korea from late 1990 to early this year.

It is believed North Korea will be capable of making two or three atomic bombs by the mid-1990s and is already producing plutonium at a nuclear reactor in Yongbyon, some 90 kilometers north of Pyongyang.

'Anti-Kim Soldiers' Said To Cause DPRK Blast

SK0911011491 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 9 Nov 91 p 2

[Text] A large explosion, which took place at arsenals around Pyonggang, just north of the Demilitarized Zone, on Oct. 30, was set off by anti-Kim Il-song elements in the North Korean military, a Japanese-language newspaper published in Japan by Korean nationals, reported Thursday [7 November].

The SEKAI NIPPO said that six arsenals, located between Pyonggang and Sepo, about 30 kilometers north of the small city, were exploded simultaneously by anti-Kim soldiers in the People's Army, resulting in the deaths of 20 involved in the operations.

It said that the story was based on intelligence which Yi Kwang, president of the Korean-Choson People Democratic Unification League, a unification movement body composed of pro-Seoul and pro-Pyongyang Koreans in Japan, recently obtained from a "reform-minded source" in North Korea.

The daily newspaper presumed that "democratic forces" in North Korea might try to impede normalization talks between the North and Japan which could entail billions of dollars in economic aid to Pyongyang in compensation for Tokyo's 35-year-long rule and facilitate Kim's transfer of power to his son.

Four rounds of normalization negotiations have been held but hit snags due to the North's refusal to open its nuclear installations to international inspection, though the two parties appear at no serious odds over the compensation amount.

Kim still seems healthy and active but North Korea watchers in Seoul speculate that the power transfer, unprecedented in socialist history, may come as early as next year when he turns 80 and his son Chong-il turns 50.

Intelligence officers at the Defense Ministry here commented that a terrorist attack might be one of several plausible causes of the massive explosion but that he is not sure at present.

North Korea indirectly admitted an explosion happened. Its propaganda media, Central Radio and Radio Pyongyang, urged North Koreans to take a lesson from an unspecified incident and assume a more water-tight vigil for the prevention of such incidents.

They did not elaborate on it. Rather, the radio broadcasts billed South Korean media reports about the incident as "false and totally groundless."

South Korean newspapers reported early this week that the explosion claimed the lives of 120.

Students Protest U.S. Pressure on Rice Market

SK1211090291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0646 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 12 (YONHAP)—Seven students from Seoul National University, demanding that the United States stop pressuring South Korea to open its rice market, demonstrated Tuesday near the Shilla Hotel, site of the third ministerial conference of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC).

The members of Chondaehyop (the National Council of Students Representatives) were stopped by police guards before they could enter the hotel grounds and taken into detention.

They carried a placard reading "United States, stop economic invasion" and chanted slogans such as "We desperately oppose opening the rice market" and "Go home (U.S. Trade Representative) Carla Hills."

Police Step Up Security for U.S. Facilities

SK1211022891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0213 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Text] Seoul, Nov. 12 (YONHAP)—The National Police Administration on Tuesday ordered heightened security around U.S. facilities across South Korea and the ruling party headquarters building for the duration of the 23rd annual Korea-U.S. Security Consultative Meeting here Nov. 20-23.

The U.S. Embassy, the offices of the Korea-U.S. Combined Command and the headquarters of the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] are considered prime targets for attack by the radical student groups Chondaehyop [National Council of University Student Representatives] and Sochongnyon [Seoul District Federation of General Student Councils], which are calling for the accord on wartime host nation support to be scrapped.

Burma

Thai Delegation Arrives for Border Talks 11 Nov

BK1111141491 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] A Thai delegation headed by Lieutenant General Phairot Chantha-urai, commander of the Third Army Region of the Royal Thai Army, arrived by a special plane at Yangon [Rangoon] airport this morning to attend the sixth meeting of the Myanmar [Burmese]-Thai Border Committee in Taunggyi.

Lt. Gen. Phairot Chantha-urai and his delegation were welcomed at the airport by Major General Maung Aye, commander of the Eastern Military Command; U Ohn Gyaw, minister of foreign affairs; U Nyunt Swe, Myanmar ambassador to Thailand; high-ranking officials from the Defense Ministry; responsible officials from the Foreign Affairs Ministry; members of the Myanmar-Thai Border Committee; Mr. Suraphong Posayanon, Thai ambassador to Myanmar; and staff members of the Thai Embassy.

After a brief stopover at Yangon airport, the Thai delegation left by a special Myanmar Defense Service aircraft for Heho this morning.

It is understood that the Thai delegation will have talks at the headquarters of the Eastern Military Command with the Myanmar side headed Maj. Gen. Maung Aye.

Agreement With PRC To Buy 7,000 Tons of Rail

BK1211151991 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Text] A ceremony was held in the conference hall of the Myanmar [Burma] Railways Enterprise headquarters at 1000 today to mark the signing of a contract agreement for the purchase of rail from the People's Republic of China by the Myanmar Railways Enterprise.

Attending the ceremony were U Win Sein, managing director of the Myanmar Railways Enterprise, and departmental heads; Mr. (Zhao Yaoshi), economic counselor of the PRC Embassy; Mr. Zhang Jingwen, manager of the Yunnan Machinery Import and Export Corporation; and responsible officials.

The agreement was signed by U Win Sein, managing director of the Myanmar Railways Enterprise, and Zhang Jingwen, manager of the Yunnan Machinery Import and Export Corporation.

Following the signing of the agreement, U Win Sein and PRC Economic Counselor Mr. (Zhao Yaoshi) delivered speeches expressing satisfaction over the successful conclusion of the rail purchase agreement which is the result of cooperation between the Union of Myanmar and the PRC.

The 7,000 tons of rail will be used for the route between Myingyan and Tada-u. The purchase amounted to U.S.$3.626 million, or the equivalent of 23.57 million kyat. The first rail shipment will begin in March 1992.

The agreement is the first to be signed between the Myanmar Railways Enterprise and the Yunnan Machinery Import and Export Corporation.

Karen Insurgents Derail Moulmein-Rangoon Train

BK1111142891 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Excerpts] KNU [Karen National Union] insurgents have been hampering and disrupting regional peace and tranquillity, killing innocent villagers, committing robberies on roads, burning villages, and destroying bridges and roads as well as mining railroad tracks to kill and maim commuters.

Accordingly, at 0958 on the morning of 10 November, as the Moulmein-Yangon [Rangoon] train was leaving Hninpale station for Yangon, the engine driver and a guard saw a KNU insurgent drop a sack of mines between the 112th and 113d milestones. As the guard tried to stop the train, the engine driver also applied the brakes to halt the train. However, the mines exploded as the train was about 25 yards away.

The explosion ripped open three rail sections and the engine and 10 coaches swerved right. Two passenger coaches were derailed, killing two passengers and injuring five others.

As soon as the news of the mine explosion was heard, Brigadier General Hla Myint Swe, commander of the 88th Light Infantry Division, and responsible officials of the Army and departments concerned inspected the site. Under their supervision, railway workers and the Defense Service personnel repaired the rail tracks and cleared the derailed coaches.

Repair work was completed at noon today and the Moulmein-Yangon rail services have returned to normal.

Rangoon Commander Inspects Training Exercises

BK1011114591 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 9 Nov 91

[Excerpts] Major General Myo Nyunt, chairman of the Yangon [Rangoon] Division Law and Order Restoration Council [LORC] and commander of Yangon Military Command, accompanied by Deputy Commander Colonel Sein Htwar, regimental commander of the No. 70 Infantry Regiment, and other members of his entourage left by helicopter this morning to inspect the training exercises aimed at surrounding, blockading, and smashing the enemy which are being conducted with the people's participation in Syriam, Kayan, Thongwa, and Kyauktan townships. [passage omitted]

At the Phagu village training supervisory office, Naval Commander Myo Thint, chairman of the Hanthawaddy

Township Zone LORC, explained the training procedures with the aid of maps and charts. The training for military preparedness is to counter an insurgent attack from the inner and outer perimeters of Kalawe, (Yon Thabyegan), Pagaing Chaung, Dezat, Phagu, and Winkanein village tracts covering 25 miles along the Pegu river in Syriam township. Over 100,000 people from the villages were involved in the exercises.

During his visit to Kayan, Thongwa, Kyauktan, and Syriam on 14 October 1991 and on arrival at the various training supervisory offices in the four townships, Commander Maj. Gen. Myo Nyunt reiterated the remarks of Maj. Gen. Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council. [passage omitted]

Maj. Gen. Myo Nyunt said the reason for the visit was to inform the townships and villages about the training exercises. The insurgents are resorting to all means, including inciting people through foreign broadcasting services and infiltrating areas through their contacts in the overt and underground organizations.

The insurgents can infiltrate these townships any time since the east Hanthawaddy region is situated east of the mouth of the Sittang River and is connected to the Gulf of Martaban. The responsibility of preventing this peaceful and tranquil White Area from becoming a bloodied area lies with the local populace. It is essential to provide information regarding infiltration by the enemy and to avoid giving them food. [passage omitted]

Presently, you need to expose the overt organizations of the insurgents in order to prevent insurgent infiltration. Some political parties are playing a double game. In the same way as Sein Win and his group who are members of political parties that went underground are relying on foreign aid, there are also people within the country who look to foreign countries. Elements abroad are also taking every available opportunity to incite the people. No matter how much you rely on external influence, the strength of the country lies only within. In accordance with the tactics of the people's militia, the People's Militia Supervisory Committee must form committees to gather information, to make preparations, to provide security, to manage, and to expose and arrest insurgents. Personnel from these committees are urged to fulfill their duties as defenders and contributors to the construction of the country with a complete sense of military awareness, national political awareness, and security alertness. [passage omitted]

Maj. Gen. Myo Nyunt and party left Phagu village at 0900 and arrived at Yegyaw village of Kayan Township at 0930. The Kayan Township LORC chairman explained the training exercises conducted at the Zibyubin, Kinmungyon, Yegyaw, and Bogale village tracts in Kayan Township involving over 100,000 people. The commander gave the necessary instructions and left Yegyaw village at 1010.

The commander and his entourage arrived in Kadonbaw village of Thongwa Township at 1030 and were welcomed by the regimental commander of No. 90 Infantry Regiment and the chairman of Thongwa Township LORC. The regimental commander presented explanations on training programs carried out at the Htonggyi, Kadonbaw, Aungtha Chan, Thamaseikta, and Minya Athin village tracts. Over 100,000 people from the villages took part in the exercises. After giving the necessary instructions, the commander left Kadonbaw village at 1205.

Continuing the tour, the commander and his party arrived at Kamakalok village of Kyauktan Township at 1245 and were welcomed by the chairman of the Kyauktan Township LORC, departmental officials, and villagers. The chairman of the Kyauktan Township LORC explained the training programs covering the 29-mile-long Pandaw, Mibya, Zweba-Kondan, Kamakalok, Mingalun, Kanaung, Myagaing, Shangyaung, and Kalat Dan village tracts. Over 100,000 villagers participated in the training programs. The commander gave the necessary instructions.

Maj. Gen. Myo Nyunt and his entourage left Kamakalok at 1345 and arrived back in Yangon at 1420.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Mahathir: Efforts To Form EAEC To Continue

BK1011135691 Kuala Lumpur Radio Malaysia Network in English 1330 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Excerpt] The United States cannot be invited to join the proposed East Asia Economic Caucus, EAEC, as it is not an East Asian country but a country which even belongs to a different economic bloc, NAFTA [North American Free Trade Association]. This was stated by the prime minister when asked to comment on reports from Tokyo that Japan will only join the EAEC if the United States is a member of the caucus.

Answering questions by newsmen in Kuala Lumpur after the end of the UMNO [United Malays National Organization] General Assembly, Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir says Japan is only looking for an excuse to stay out of the EAEC. He explained that many Japanese businessmen and other quarters want Japan to join the caucus, but the United States is preventing Japan from joining it. However, he said efforts to form the EAEC will continue. Malaysia, with the other ASEAN members, will contact the other East Asian countries and go ahead with its formation. [passage omitted]

Commentary Questions U.S. Opposition to EAEC

BK1111112591 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Station commentary]

[Text] The United States is against Malaysia's need to set up the East Asia Economic Caucus, EAEC. A Japanese news report quoted as saying that U.S. Secretary of State James Baker had formally asked Japan not to participate in the EAEC. This clearly shows that the U.S. does not favor free trade. After all, the EAEC which has yet to be formed is supposed to be a loose consultative forum.

Only last month U.S. Trade Representative Carla Hills said in Kuala Lumpur the U.S. was not against the EAEC as long as it promotes dialogue. Then why this sudden change in attitude? For one thing it clearly shows that the U.S. as a superpower has not seriously considered the views of others. This is more so especially if they are developing countries such as Malaysia.

It is difficult to understand the U.S. opposition. The prime minister had explained to Mr. Baker at length on the EAEC and it looks like the U.S. secretary of state was not even listening. But the EAEC plan, now an ASEAN initiative, is harmless and does not pose any threat to anyone but aims at protecting free trade. If the U.S. is true to its word of supporting free trade then why the opposition to the EAEC? An explanation is called for. It is even more disappointing that it looks as though the U.S. does not appreciate Malaysia's support for the U.S.-sponsored Security Council resolutions on the Gulf war.

The U.S. possibly hopes that by discouraging Japan from joining the EAEC would not be effective. But the fact is that Japan is part of East Asia and, therefore, should participate in the forum. And so, it looks like the U.S. feels uneasy about Malaysia's international recognition among the developing countries. After the victory in the Gulf war, the U.S. seems to be trampling its authority all over the place. The fall of the Soviet Communist Party now virtually makes the U.S. the lone superpower. And it is talking about a new world order. But the new world order subscribes towards something better and not stopping others from getting together and talking about free trade.

Malaysia has never interfered in the U.S.-led North American Free Trade Area or with anything they do. Logically and if necessary the U.S. cannot interfere in the caucus. Just because it cannot join the EAEC, it does not mean that it can stop others. But as the prime minister had said, the EAEC plan would continue even if Japan decides not to participate.

Mahathir Responds to UMNO Criticisms

BK1111063691 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0314 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Nov 11 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysia's prime minister, Dr. Mahathir Mohamed, said criticisms levelled at the Malay rulers during the general assembly of the United Malays National Organisation (UMNO), the major party in the ruling National Front coalition, do not at all mean that Malaysia is to become a republic.

"What the delegates raised during the assembly are constructive criticisms to correct the situation before it is too late," he said.

The criticisms were made because UMNO loved the monarchy, he said when replying to matters raised during debate at the close of the assembly which ended on Sunday.

Dr. Mahathir, who is UMNO president, hoped that rulers understood the matter as the party's intention was good adding that, "we don't want to be a republic."

He said the criticisms had to be made before it was too late and at this point, the situation could still be rectified.

He said if the situation got out of hand and the people started to oppose the monarchy, criticisms would be useless then.

The prime minister hoped that the rulers would not take exception to the criticisms.

"They were just criticisms...sometimes we get a little bit rough. UMNO people are rough sometimes.

"But what is important is when something goes amiss, we have to point it out. We do it in good faith," he said.

"UMNO has never wanted to turn the country into a republic ... Our constitution clearly says so...." he said.

The prime minister said the monarchy was important as without the Malay rulers there would be no Malay customs.

Dr. Mahathir said he had already conveyed the people's feelings about the constitutional monarchy issue to the conference of rulers.

Singapore

Opposition Leader Challenges Goh on By-Election

BK0911044291 Hong Kong AFP in English 0135 GMT 9 Nov 91

[By R.V. Lingam]

[Text] Singapore, Nov 9 (AFP)—Singapore's first opposition MP, lawyer Joshua Jeyaretnam, whose five-year suspension from Parliament ends Sunday, has challenged the government to hold a by-election to enable voters to return him to the House of Representatives.

Jeyaretnam, 67, who said he was now poised and prepared to re-enter the election fray after "being kept out of parliament wrongly for five full years," said he was issuing the challenge directly to Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong.

Referring to Goh's statements during the August general election that he would hold by-elections within 12 to 18 months to enable Jeyaretnam to stand, the former opposition MP said, "If Goh is sincere he should not only keep to his words but hold one soon to enable me to contest."

Jeyaretnam, the leader of the Workers Party (WP), was suspended from parliament for five years on November 11, 1986, when the court of appeal varied a lower court sentence which resulted in his disqualification.

He was convicted over irregularites in his party's accounts.

His three month sentence by a lower court was changed to one month and a fine of 2,300 U.S. dollars was imposed by the court of appeal.

Under Singapore's laws anyone convicted and sentenced to more than one year in jail or fined more than 1,300 U.S. dollars is suspended from Parliament for five years.

He was later struck off the roll of lawyers as a result of the conviction. He appealed to the Privy Council in London, at that time Singapore's highest court of appeal, against being struck off and won.

The Privy Council held that he was wrongly convicted and recommended a presidential pardon as it could not interfere with the wrong conviction. The appeal for a pardon was rejected.

Soon after the laws were amended and lawyers found guilty of professional misconduct can no longer appeal to the Privy Council.

As a result of the disqualification, Jeyaretnam could not contest two general elections—in September 1988 and August 1991.

Jeyaretnam became the first opposition MP in 15 years in independent Singapore when he won a by-election in 1981 in the Anson constituency. He was re-elected in the same ward with a bigger majority in the 1984 general election.

The WP leader, in an interview with AFP, claimed that the 1991 general election was held two years ahead of schedule "for the sole purpose of keeping me out of parliament for another five years."

The general election was only due in September 1993.

"The 1991 election was held just 70 days before my wrong disqualification was due to expire. It was very clear the government rushed through the general election to keep me out," he said.

He added that the failure of the government to convene parliament after the 1991 general election was "further evidence of bad faith."

"Goh has still to tell the nation when parliament would be opened. He has only said that parliament would be opened sometime in January. No exact date has been announced so far," the opposition leader said.

Jeyaretnam, who was a former registrar of the high court, added that Goh was a "mere puppet" and "hardly knew what he was doing or saying."

"Goh Chok Tong will go in no time. We all know who the next PM [prime minister] will be. It is none other than Lee Hsien Loong, the elder son of former PM Lee Kuan Yew, who still runs the show," Joshua added.

Lee stepped down as prime minister in November 1990 in favour of his designated successor Goh. Lee is now a senior minister in Goh's Cabinet.

Recounting Goh's reaction at the post-election press conference on August 31 to the loss of four seats to the opposition, Jeyaretnam said "his behaviour was most appalling. He was threatening and intimidating those who voted for the opposition.

"How he and his government would react if they lost more seats to the opposition, or even lost the government entirely, is not difficult to imagine," the WP leader said.

The opposition won four seats in the 81-member parliament and the government's share of popular votes shrank by two percent, down to 61 percent from the 63 percent in 1988.

The Singapore Democratic Party (SDP) won three seats and the WP one.

"The fear for the opposition is now real. The government dare not convene Parliament and the people are beginning to question the motive," Jeyaretnam said.

"The longer they delay opening Parliament the better it is for the opposition. It is the government that fears the verdict of the people and this message is now clear," he added.

Jeyaretnam narrowly escaped being made a bankrupt 10 days ago when he made a last minute payment of 230,000 U.S. dollars to Senior Minister Lee as legal costs for a defamation suit Lee successfully instituted against him earlier this year.

Lee was also awarded damages of 153,000 U.S. dollars which was paid by Jeyaretnam earlier.

As a bankrupt, Jeyaretnam would be disqualified for standing for election and carrying out his private law practice until such time as he was discharged from bankruptcy.

Cambodia

UNAMIC Team Arrives in Phnom Penh 9 Nov

Led by Bangladesh Diplomat

BK0911114291 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1100 GMT 9 Nov 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK November 09—A UN Advanced Mission (UNAMIC) led by Ataul Karim arrived in Phnom Penh Saturday 9 November. Mr. Ataul Karim, a Bangladesh diplomat, was accompanied by Colonel Tery Tigogy, Indonesian; Arif Raiman and Lieutenant Colonel Russel Stuart, Australians.

UNAMIC's role will be to prepare the groundwork for the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia. Briefing at the Pochentong airport upon his arrival, Karim said: "Our main tasks will be to establish liaison with the SNC [Supreme National Council] and to see that the ceasefire, which is now official, is maintained," the UN official said. He further said that: "We have certain capabilities to operate and these should be built up very soon."

Officers Arrive 10 Nov

BK1111062691 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0456 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK November 11—Australian and New Zealand military officers arrived here Sunday [11 November] on board two C-130 military aircraft of the Australian Air Forces. The 38-member team included 36 Australian tele-communications experts and two New Zealand mine-clearing experts.

The officers wearing the sky-blue berets of U.N. peacekeeping forces and armed with pistols, were welcomed at Pochentong Airport by Mr. Ataul Karim, head of the UNAMIC team who had arrived here Saturday. The experts will install satellite radio and facsimile links between the four factions in Cambodia and a U.N. Office in Phnom Penh.

Australia has offered up to 600 troops for a planned multinational U.N. peace-keeping operation next year.

40 Australian Troops Arrive

BK1011091391 Hong Kong AFP in English 0846 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, Nov 10 (AFP)—Forty Australian troops arrived here Sunday in the first U.N. military contingent to land in Cambodia to monitor the peace process here.

The men, all communications specialists, were welcomed at Pochentong airport by Ataul Karim, head of the United Nations Advance Mission for Cambodia (UNAMIC), and the commander of their unit, Lieutenant-Colonel Russell Stuart.

French Troops Arrive

BK1211122791 Hong Kong AFP in English 1107 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, Nov 12 (AFP)—French troops arrived back Tuesday in the land they ruled until 1953, now as a key component of the United Nations peacekeeping force in Cambodia. General Michel Loridon flew in from Bangkok via Ho Chi Minh City after the U.N. Security Council approved his appointment as military commander of the U.N. Advance Mission in Cambodia (UNAMIC).

"I am U.N. now," the 55-year-old paratroop general said when asked whether France's colonial past in Cambodia would influence his mission.

"I'm very proud that it was a French general who was chosen, and it seems normal since (French President Francois) Mitterrand and the Indonesian President (Suharto) are co-chairmen of the Paris conference (on Cambodia)."

Loridon was greeted by Australian and Indonesian officers of the U.N. force that began assembling here Sunday.

A total of 54 French military personnel arrived aboard two transport planes—Loridon's C-160 Transall, painted U.N.-white, and a camouflage C-130 Hercules. The planes, which took off from Bangkok carrying Loridon's staff, stopped in Ho Chi Minh City, southern Vietnam, and picked up the ground crews for four Puma helicopters due to arrive Wednesday along with trucks and 58 more French U.N. troops.

The helicopters will transport members of UNAMIC, which has been charged with guarding the cease-fire in Cambodia and starting an operation to clear mines laid during the 13-year civil war. The 270-member advance force includes about 170 military personnel, including 112 French who will mainly handle transport, 38 Australian communications specialists and 20 New Zealand mine-clearing experts. "I'm hopeful for the success of my mission. I know it won't be easy but I'm very sporting. When I take the field it's to win," Loridon said upon arrival.

UNAMIC will make way around the end of the year for the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), which will guide the administration of Cambodia through general elections in 1993. The United States had initially come out against naming Loridon, expressing concern about having an official from one of the five permanent Security Council members occupy a command post in Cambodia. But diplomatic sources said Washington had agreed to accept Loridon if Australian General John Sanderson was named head of UNTAC's military arm. Sanderson's appointment was announced Monday along with Loridon's.

Phnom Penh Committee Receives ESCAP Group

BK1011130791 Phnom Penh SPK in French 1110 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Text] Phnom Penh 10 Nov (SPK)—The people's committee of Phnom Penh received representatives from the UN Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East [ESCAP], currently on mission to Cambodia, on 7 November.

Kry Pengho, vice chairman of the Phnom Penh people's committee, briefed his guests about the situation in the city as well as the difficulties it faced, especially the shortage of electricity and drinking water. He also gave an account of the lack of technicians and necessary materials for sanitation works and construction of housing for refugees returning from overseas. He asked ESCAP to assist in the training of Cambodian technical staff needed to further develop the city.

The ESCAP delegation is part of a joint UN-agencies mission which came to Cambodia in the end of October to assess country's pressing and urgent needs following the signing of the Paris peace accord.

Hun Sen Receives Japanese Envoy, Requests Aid

OW1011135391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1323 GMT 10 Nov 91

[By Masanori Kikuta]

[Text] Phnom Penh, Nov. 10 KYODO—Prime Minister Hun Sen of the Phnom Penh government urged Japan on Sunday to help not only the United Nations' peace mission but Cambodia's reconstruction efforts. He made the request during an hour-long meeting with Yukio Imagawa, Japan's first permanent Cambodian envoy in 16 years.

Imagawa, who arrived from Bangkok earlier in the day, paid a courtesy call on Hun Sen at his private residence. The envoy quoted him as saying Japanese cooperation is indispensable to maintain peace and rehabilitate the Cambodian economy battered by two decades of conflict and war.

Hun Sen told him not to forget bilateral and other forms of reconstruction aid as well as contributing to the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), Imagawa told reporters.

Under a peace package signed in Paris on October 23, UNTAC will oversee administration, verify the ceasefire now in effect, supervise military demobilization, and organize free elections within the next 18 months.

Imagawa met Hun Sen in his first official duty as Japan's permanent representative to the Supreme National Council (SNC), a reconciliation body representing Cambodian sovereignty during the U.N.-supervised peace process. Hun Sen is one of 12 SNC members who represent the Phnom Penh government and three rebel factions.

Imagawa told a news conference earlier in the day that Japan will dispatch a fact-finding mission here around January ahead of an international aid conference it will host for the war-torn country. Japan will organize a working-level meeting before March prior to a ministerial aid conference, he said.

Imagawa is the second permanent representative to the SNC to arrive in Phnom Penh following a North Korean envoy since the Paris peace accord was sealed, a Cambodian Foreign Ministry official said. Imagawa said he will present credentials to SNC President Prince Norodom Sihanouk on November 18. "With the peace pact in place, I think the Cambodian problem will be resolved if Prince Sihanouk and Prime Minister Hun Sen continue to cooperate," said the 59-year-old former minister at the Japanese Embassy in Bangkok.

Foreign assistance alone would do little without cooperation among Cambodians themselves, said Imagawa, who served his first overseas diplomatic stint in Phnom Penh more than 20 years ago. That cooperation "is going to take place now," he said, adding it will be symbolized by Sihanouk's return to Phnom Penh scheduled for Thursday.

The former Cambodian ruler will be back in his home country as head of the SNC, an interim governing body representing all four rival factions, ending nearly 13 years of exile in Beijing.

Imagawa said Japan's main task will be to help Cambodia regain peace, rebuild its battered economy, and promote personnel exchanges for deeper mutual understanding.

Japan shut down its Phnom Penh mission in 1975 when the Khmer Rouge replaced a U.S.-backed government. The Chinese-backed regime was driven from power in early 1979 by invading Vietnamese troops, which installed the present government.

Hun Sen Defends Opposition to Party Formation

BK1111082491 Hong Kong AFP in English 0802 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Bangkok, Nov 11 (AFP)—Cambodia's Prime Minister Hun Sen defended here Monday his government's refusal to allow a Cambodian-American to form a political party, saying she had tried to "set up a gang." But Hun Sen, who arrived here earlier on his way to Beijing to accompany Prince Norodom Sihanouk back to Cambodia this week, said Phnom Penh was not opposed to the formation of new political parties.

U.S. human rights activist Vanna Om Strinko, who was born in Cambodia, tried to set up a party called the New Life Democratic Party last month in Phnom Penh, but desisted later charging that she had been intimidated by government agents. "Let me tell you directly that she attempted to set up a gang not a political party," Hun Sen said, speaking to reporters at a hotel in Bangkok.

"As far as we're concerned anybody can set up a political party, but they must at least follow some of the state's regulations," he added. Hun Sen said Strinko "had made arrangements with hotel officials and took the opportunity during a celebration of Prince Norodom Sihanouk's birthday to announce the existence of her party. This is inappropriate."

Strinko said had not been given permission to announce the names of her party members "because they are still afraid." She accused the government in Phnom Penh of not respecting the peace accords signed last month, which called for setting up a democracy in Cambodia.

Following Strinko's attempt and a request by the United States for the Cambodians to abide by the accord, Prince Sihanouk, the head of the Supreme National Council (SNC), issued a statement in Beijing urging all members to comply with the peace process, especially in the formation of new parties. But Hun Sen said that Strinko "was afraid after her surprise announcement, as she had failed to inform the local authorities about her intentions. But we did not try to stop her."

"And when she became afraid, she began blaming us for our refusal. But she has not submitted any formal application to set up a political party," Hun Sen said, adding that it was his government's duty to see that regulations and laws were followed. Hun Sen also stressed the need to keep the public order to prevent any incident in Phnom Penh at this critial time.

Bangkok-based analysts said Hun Sen only wished to "keep the lid on political activities" in his country prior to the arrival of Prince Sihanouk and other members of the SNC in Phnom Penh. Hun Sen said other SNC members were expected to arrive in Phnom Penh shortly after the prince.

The SNC, a caretaker governing body to act under a U.S. Administration ahead of elections in Cambodia, is made up of the Phnom Penh regime and its opposing factions, including Prince Sihanouk's followers, the non-communist Khmer Peoples' National Liberation Front (KPNLF) and the Marxist Khmer Rouge. Prince Sihanouk, Cambodia's former monarch, is scheduled to return to Phnom Penh on Thursday after an absence of more than a decade.

Prime Minister Hun Sen Leaves For Beijing

To Meet Sihanouk

BK1111054491 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0510 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK Nov. 11—Prime Minister Hun Sen left here today for Beijing to have talks with Prince Norodom Sihanouk on a number of issues and to accompany the prince back to Cambodia. The prince is scheduled to arrive in Phnom Penh on November 14. Hun Sen, his wife and his entourage were seen off at Pochentong Airport by a group of high-ranking officials.

Prince Sihanouk is scheduled to return to Phnom Penh on November 14 after more than 13 years in exile. During his stay here, the former monarch will preside over the next session of the Supreme National Council, participate in the water festival, and visit a number of provinces.

Details of Trip Given

BK1211063891 Hong Kong AFP in English 0620 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Parentheses as received]

[Text] Bangkok, Nov 12 (AFP)—Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen left here Tuesday for Beijing, a Thai air force official said. Hun Sen is to escort Cambodia's former monarch Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who is currently chairman of the Supreme National Council (SNC), back to Phnom Penh on Thursday.

This will be the first trip back to the Cambodian capital for the prince since January 1979 when he left his country following Vietnam's invasion of Cambodia to oust the Marxist Khmer Rouge regime. Hun Sen told reporters on his arrival here from Phnom Penh on Monday that he expected to call on Chinese leaders while in Beijing.

(In the Chinese capital a source close to the prince said he would be leaving Beijing at 5.00 a.m. Thursday on a China Air flight chartered by the Chinese government to fly non-stop to Phnom Penh.

(He will travel with his wife, Princess Monique, as well as Hun Sen, with an estimated time of arrival of 11.00 a.m. local time (0400 GMT), the source said.)

(There was no indication from his entourage what was on Prince Sihanouk's program until his departure Thursday, although his advisors indicated that he would not hold talks with Hun Sen before their arrival in Cambodia.

("Hun Sen only comes here to escort the prince to Phnom Penh," one said.

(The prince attended a farewell dinner Monday night held in his honour by Chinese Prime Minister Li Peng.

(China and Cambodia "want from now on to develop a friendly relationship," the People's Daily said Tuesday).

China, where Sihanouk lived alternately with North Korea during the past 13 years, was one of the main backers of the Khmer Rouge which massacred hundreds of thousands, possibly millions when in power from 1975 to 1979. Ousted by the Vietnamese, the Khmer Rouge continued to benefit from Beijing's support during its armed struggle against the regime installed and armed by Hanoi in Phnom Penh.

Communique Issued on Sihanouk's Upcoming Return

BK1211050391 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Unattributed "Communique on the coming to the motherland of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, chairman of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia"—date not given]

[Text] Pursuant to the State of Cambodia [SOC]'s policy of national reconciliation and to the agreement on peace in Cambodia which was signed at the international conference held in Paris on 23 October 1991 and with the spirit of Cambodian national reconciliation, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia, and neak moniang [title for Sihanouk's wife] are scheduled to arrive in Phnom Penh capital on 14 November 1991.

The Cambodian People's Party, the SOC Government, and the Cambodian people throughout the country would like to express their warm welcome and are joyfully arranging a warmest welcoming ceremony for the return to the motherland of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and neak moniang.

Party Paper Welcomes Return

BK0911064291 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0222 GMT 9 Nov 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK November 8—The PRACHEACHON paper, organ of the Cambodian People's Party, said in its latest editorial that Prince Sihanouk's return to Cambodia on November 14 would mark a new stage of peace, national reconciliation and development in the country. It said the prince's return would be a great victory of the national reconciliation policy of the Cambodian People's Party which was introduced in 1987 with the aim of ending the conflict and the people's sufferings.

"The prince's mission in Cambodia will contribute to implementing the Paris peace accord, thus responding to the Cambodians' aspiration and the hope of the world community," it said. The paper continued: "The Cambodian people hope that the prince will stand for their interests and assemble forces for national unity so as to defend the social gains and prevent a repetition of the past calamity."

"The party, government and people of Cambodia warmly welcome and are pleased with the prince's mission as chairman of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia (SNC)," the paper added.

Vietnamese Ambassador To End Tour 13 Nov

BK1211052391 Hong Kong AFP in English 0501 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, Nov 12 (AFP)—Ngo Dien, Vietnam's powerful ambassador here, will be leaving Cambodia for good on Wednesday, Cambodian and Vietnamese officials said here on Tuesday. Dien had taken up his posting in 1979 a few weeks after Vietnam's invasion of Cambodia to overthrow the Khmer Rouge regime and replace it with a pro-Hanoi government.

With a career stretching back to Vietnam's victory over France, Dien was sometimes described as Hanoi's "proconsul" in Cambodia. The completion of his assignment comes only weeks after a peace treaty was concluded in Paris to end the Cambodia war pitting the Phnom Penh government against a guerrilla coalition dominated by the Khmer Rouge and supported by China and the United States.

"With the Paris agreement a new situation has emerged. Our future relations with Vietnam cannot go as before and they will not go beyond state-to-state relations," a Cambodian official said, requesting he not be identified. "But relations with Vietnam will not be confrontational, as it is our interest to maintain a good relationship with our powerful neighbours, Vietnam and Thailand," he said.

A new Vietnamese ambassador is to be appointed and accredited to the Supreme National Council (SNC) linking Cambodia's warring factions, officials said. Dien, seen by analysts as one of Hanoi's smoothest and most skillful diplomats, first became ambassador to Cambodia when the country was ruled by Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

Prince Sihanouk was the first to call him "my proconsul," reflecting the weight carried by Hanoi here before the prince lost power in a U.S.-backed coup in 1970. Dien is leaving here one day ahead of the return of Prince Sihanouk now the neutral head of the SNC. The Vietnamese official, who is said to be in poor health, was making farewell visits on Tuesday with Phnom Penh party chief Chea Sim and state President Heng Samrin.

VGNUFC Praises Dissolution of Army Unit

BK1211011091 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] On 7 November, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, chairman of Cambodia's Supreme National Council [SNC] ordered the disbandment of an army unit which was led by the samdech as supreme commander. At the same time, he called on the unit to hand over its arms and munitions to the UN mission coming to Cambodia.

This is a good and exemplary gesture by SNC Chairman Samdech Norodom Sihanouk in implementation of the agreement signed in Paris on 23 October 1991 ending the

Vietnamese war of aggression against Cambodia through comprehensive political means.

UN Appoints Commander of Peacekeeping Force

BK1211013691 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] According to reports from the United Nations, UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar has appointed an Australian, Lieutenant General John Sanderson, as commander of the UN peacekeeping forces to implement the peace agreement on settling the Vietnamese war of aggression in Cambodia through comprehensive political means.

The United Nations has also appointed Michel Loridon, a French national, as John Sanderson's deputy.

The tasks of this UN peacekeeping unit are:

1. To supervise the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia.
2. To monitor the cease-fire.
3. To supervise the dismantling of 70 percent of all Cambodian factions' armed forces and garrisoning the remaining 30 percent in camps under UN supervision.
4. To supervise the free elections to be held in 1993.

The reports say the United Nations will select another to head its civilian mission, which consists of approximately 10,000 men.

Son Sann Comments on Upcoming Phnom Penh Trip

BK1111075891 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] His Excellency [H.E.] Son Sann, president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF] and member of Cambodia's Supreme National Council [SNC], arrived at Don Muang airport, Thailand, at 0800 on Sunday [10 November] on his way to Phnom Penh from Paris, France, taking participating in the signing of the agreement on the Cambodian solution in Paris on 23 October.

Upon arriving in Bangkok, H.E. Son Sann said the KPNLF radio in Paris asked him about his opinion over the reports by various foreign newspapers that the Heng Samrin regime had sold all of the state's property, such as factories, hotels, and land. Concerning this matter, H.E. Son Sann said that this is unbelievable. He said that if this is true, then he will rush to Phnom Penh in the near future and find ways to check such practices which are harming national interests, regardless of obstacles raised for his trip.

A KPNLF delegation led by Penn Thol, delegate of the KPNLF Executive Committee in charge of economic and financial affairs of the KPNLF president's cabinet and member of the Cambodian SNC Secretariat, will be arriving in Phnom Penh this week to arrange for H.E. Son Sann's trip to Phnom Penh.

Other members of the KPNLF delegation accompanying Penn Thol are Ambassador Sieng Lapresse, KPNLF representative to the United States and the United Nations; and Ambassador (Li Sonliap), KPNLF representative in Tokyo, Japan.

Soldiers Return Home, Join Local Council

BK0911035491 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 7 Nov 91

[Text] The national council in Bati District has reported that 24 Cambodian soldiers who had been forced to serve the Vietnamese aggressors in Bati District, Takeo Province returned to their parents, relatives, and families on 29 October.

As they were returning home, these compatriot Cambodian soldiers told our people that the agreement solving and ending Vietnam's war of aggression in Cambodia was officially and solemnly signed before the Supreme National Council [SNC], the United Nations, and the world in Paris on 23 October. Like the Cambodian people, we have suffered a great deal due to Vietnam's aggression over the past 13 years, but now we have an agreement ending Vietnam's war of aggression in Cambodia. We must return to our parents, relatives, and families and stay with village and commune national councils, which are under the Sihanouk-led SNC. We join our people and the Sihanouk-led SNC and the UN forces in properly and correctly implementing all the points of the agreement solving and ending Vietnam's war of aggression in Cambodia so the Cambodian nation and people can recover genuine independence and peace.

Khmer Rouge Leader To Return to Phnom Penh

BK1111105091 Hong Kong AFP in English 1001 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Excerpt] Phnom Penh, Nov 11 (AFP)—Son Sen, the military commander of the Khmer Rouge guerrilla forces, is expected here Sunday as the first leader of the feared group to return to Phnom Penh, officials said. Officials said Khieu Samphan, the Khmer Rouge's other representative on the 12-member Supreme National Council (SNC), was not expected here at the same time as Son Sen. They gave no explanation for this.

A four-man advance party of Khmer Rouge officials quietly arrived here earlier this month to make arrangements for the return of Khieu Samphan and Son Sen, other well-informed Cambodian sources said. Khieu Samphan has become the group's nominal chief, although Cambodia experts agree that former ruler Pol Pot is still in overall command of the secretive Khmer Rouge. [passage omitted]

Hor Namhong Interviewed on Future of Khmer Rouge

BK1211094891 Hong Kong AFP in English 0928 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Text] Phnom Penh, Nov 12 (AFP)—Foreign Minister Hor Namhong said Tuesday that the Cambodian peace treaty signed last month could allow the return to power of the Khmer Rouge. "This accord is almost a gift because it gives them a chance to return to power," Hor Namhong said in an interview with AFP granted two days before the return of Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

The Khmer Rouge, allied with Prince Sihanouk in the resistance for the last 13 years, is responsible for the deaths of hundreds of thousands of people during their four-year rule that ended with a Vietnamese invasion in 1978. "They're not interested in fighting anymore. They're preparing for the long term, after the elections," he said. "It's then that we have to be careful."

He said the Khmer Rouge was in the process of "reorganizing their movement" to take into account the new situation in Cambodia. "They are going to wait until the elections are over and then attempt to use the people in the countryside" to come back to power, Hor Namhong said.

As for the possibility of another Vietnamese intervention to keep the Khmer Rouge from power, this question "will be the responsibility of the countries that participated in the Paris international conference and among those is Vietnam."

The five members of the U.N. Security Council, along with 14 other countries, met in Paris in October to ratify the peace treaty. The accord allows the United Nations to supervise Cambodia through elections to be held in 1993. "Before we were afraid that the U.N. force would be massive, but now it's the opposite. We are afraid it will not be able to implement the accords," said Hor Namhong, who is also a member of the Supreme National Council (SNC).

The SNC, headed by Prince Sihanouk, is a body comprising representatives of the Phnom Penh government, and the opposition groups, including Khmer Rouge leaders Son Sen and Khieu Samphan. "The population, along with the leaders of Phnom Penh, are happy about the return of Sihanouk, who has truly played a conciliatory role" in the peace process, he said.

The SNC symbolizes the sovereignty of Cambodia during the election transition period, which began this week with the arrival of an Australian contingent on Sunday. The prince is to arrive Thursday after 13 years in exile.

The United Nations Advance Mission in Cambodia (UNAMIC) is expected to play a large role in the administration of the country and disarmament of 70 percent of the armies of the rival factions. "Demobilization will be a very complex question for which we are obliged to trust in UNAMIC," Hor Namhong said.

The Phnom Penh government has always said it would be easier to disarm its troops than the Khmer Rouge guerrillas hidden in far-away jungles of Cambodia. The date of the next SNC meeting—its first in Phnom Penh—is uncertain, Hor Namhong said, noting that not all SNC members have said they would attend, he said. "Everyone must be here for the SNC meeting, because we don't have a quorum rule yet," he said.

Khieu Samphan has not even said he would be coming to Phnom Penh, Hor Namhong said. But the Khmer Rouge leader wrote to Prime Minister Hun Sen to tell him that Son Sen, the other Khmer Rouge delegate to the SNC, would attend. The SNC, formed in June last year after an accord between Prince Sihanouk and Hun Sen, has met several times in Thailand, Indonesia and France.

Khmer Rouge Preparing Resettlement Program

BK1211030991 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 Nov 91 p 6

[Text] Sisophon, Cambodia—In a shrewd political move, the Khmer Rouge is preparing its own programme to resettle Cambodians returning home from Thailand. The guerrillas, through agents, are buying draught animals in the market in Sisophon and are building villages to encourage Cambodians to resettle in areas they control, local government officials say.

The purchase of oxen and buffaloes is to have animals to offer to Cambodians who are repatriated from Thailand by the Khmer Rouge, rather than through the United Nations. The villages are being built eight kilometres south of Highway Five that leads to the Thai border from Sisophon in northwest Cambodia.

"It's a package deal," notes a foreign relief official in Phnom Penh familiar with Khmer Rouge activity.

"They are offering returning Cambodians a house, land guaranteed clear of mines, a draught animal for the plough and security—their kind of security.

"Most people remain afraid of the Khmer Rouge but some may be tempted."

The only thing the Khmer Rouge can't control is malaria but all the factions, including the Phnom Penh government, are unable to guarantee malaria-free areas to returning Cambodians, officials say. The Khmer Rouge is also adopting a more liberal attitude to people entering areas it controls to cut wood in this area.

"They allow the peasants in, give them a propaganda lecture, then permit them to cut the wood in the forest on payment of a tax," said a local official. The propaganda line spun by the Khmer Rouge guerrillas, according to the officials, is that they are true nationalists and that people should vote for them in UN supervised elections due in 1993.

There are 350,000 displaced Cambodians at camps inside Thailand, and they are to be repatriated next year under a scheme being organised by the United Nations' High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The Khmer Rouge, under whose rule in Cambodia up to a million people died, has been criticised for threatening to repatriate forcibly people it controls at Site 8 camp inside Thailand.

Diplomats in Phnom Penh have expressed anxiety about the apparent success the Khmer Rouge has been having recently in certain rural areas. "The Khmer Rouge may be despicable but it is the only Cambodian faction with a social programme of any kind," said one senior diplomat in the capital. "The other factions are out to line their own pockets."

U.S., Japanese, Chinese Diplomats Arrive

BK1211023091 Phnom Penh SPK in English 1059 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK, November 11—Charles Twining, a U.S. diplomat, arrived in Phnom Penh today to present his credential letter to the Supreme National Council Chairman Prince Norodom Sihanouk. Charles Twining has been appointed a special representative of the U.S. diplomatic mission to the SNC in Phnom Penh.

Cambodia-U.S. diplomatic relations were broken in 1975 when the pro-U.S. regime of Lon Nol was toppled by the Khmer Rouges. Besides, French, Australian, Thai and Japanese ambassadors to the SNC will also present their credential letters to the prince soon after his return to the country scheduled for November 14.

Japanese Ambassador Yukio Imagawa arrived here Sunday to look for an embassy ground in Phnom Penh. The French ambassador will present his credentials first, then come the chiefs of the Australian and Thai diplomatic missions respectively.

A Beijing delegation also arrived in Phnom Penh Saturday to talk with Cambodian officials on the future Chinese embassy in Phnom Penh. It was the first Chinese delegation to visit Cambodia after the Khmer Rouge regime was driven out in 1975 [as received]. China has been the main supporter of the Pol Pot faction in the guerrilla war against the Government of the State of Cambodia.

SPK Views U.S. Relations

BK1211064191 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0423 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Text] Phnom Penh 12 November (SPK)—Mr. Charles Twining, special representative of the United States to Cambodia's Supreme National Council [SNC], arrived in Phnom Penh on Monday [11 November] to reestablish bilateral diplomatic relations after a 16-year interruption.

He was greeted upon his arrival at Pochentong Airport by officials from the Cambodian Foreign Ministry. He will shortly present his credentials to Prince Norodom Sihanouk, SNC chairman, who should be arriving from Beijing on Thursday.

Although Washington has made it known that this development does not imply the establishment of full diplomatic relations—this would take place only after the electoral process stipulated by the agreement on Cambodia signed in Paris last month—Mr. Charles Twining said that this was "a historic event."

The last U.S. ambassador to Cambodia, Mr. John Gunther Dean, had to leave Phnom Penh by helicopter on 12 April 1975, five days before the victory of the Khmer Rouge over the Lon Nol regime.

According to well-informed sources, China will send to Phnom Penh two diplomats in charge of preparing for the upcoming dispatch of its mission accredited to the SNC. Mr. Philippe Coste, France's representative is expected next Friday, 24 hours after Prince Sihanouk's return to Phnom Penh.

Tie Banh, Soviet Envoy Discuss Peace, Military

BK0911082391 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0430 GMT 9 Nov 91

[Text] Phnom Penh 9 Nov (SPK)—Tie Banh, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and defense minister, received Yuriy Myakotnykh, the USSR's extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador to Cambodia, recently in Phnom Penh.

The minister expressed his enthusiastic thanks to the Soviet Union for its special concern about the latest events in Cambodia, particularly those coming up after last month's conclusion of a peace accord in Paris.

He briefed his guest about the military situation at the Cambodian-Thai border and in the country's interior, emphasizing that the other side has not strictly and fully respected the truce agreement. He also stressed that the cease-fire has, however, been observed in general as compared with the last period, which followed the voluntary cease-fire that was agreed upon at the first meeting in the Thai city of Phatthaya at the end of June 1991.

General Tie Banh also drew his dialogue partner's attention to a number of unresolved issues, including the establishment of the Supreme National Council [SNC] headquarters in Phnom Penh and the dispatch of a UN Advance Mission in Cambodia [UNAMIC], which the Soviet Union joined prior to the establishment of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia specified by the Paris accord.

The Soviet ambassador pointed out that the USSR, in its capacity as a member of the UN Security Council, wants to find out about the situation so that it will be able to carry out its task, primarily preventing any violation of the truce. He added that his country continues to support Cambodia, especially in this final stage of the peace settlement process.

Indonesia

Military Chief Affirms No Foreign Bases Policy

BK0911122091 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1200 GMT 9 Nov 91

[Text] Indonesia consistently adheres to its policy of not allowing any other countries to establish military bases in the republic. Try Sutrisno, commander of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Indonesia, said in Jakarta today that another country was exploring the possibility of establishing a military base in Indonesia. A magazine published in Hong Kong reported recently that the United States was exploring the possibility of using a naval dockyard in Surabaya to repair its warships and the air shooting range in Siabu, Riau.

According to the commander of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Indonesia, Indonesia has never allowed foreign military bases to be established in its territory.

Minister: Foreign Reporters To Cover Elections

BK0811153491 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1200 GMT 8 Nov 91

[Text] Information Minister Harmoko says the Indonesian Government will allow foreign journalists to cover the 1992 general elections as long as they comply with existing regulations in the country. The minister said this today after reporting to Vice President Sudharmono on the Information Department's preparations for supervising the elections, adding that foreign news agencies wishing to send additional correspondents to the country during the elections must comply with certain regulations.

Harmoko also reported to the vice president that, as of October, there have been 250 letters addressed to a special post box run by the Information Department, 182 of which have been answered. The letters mostly complained about the inadequate showing of films in isolated areas.

Funeral in Dili Exacerbates East Timor Situation

Soldiers Kill 'Dozens'

BK1211035691 Hong Kong AFP in English 0348 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Text] Jakarta, Nov 12 (AFP)—Indonesian soldiers fired on a crowd of mourners Tuesday at a cemetery in Dili, Eastern Timor, causing "many deaths," a reliable source said here.

There were "probably dozens of victims killed or wounded" at a memorial service for a Timor youth who was killed on October 28, the source said, requesting anonymity. He said the people reporting the tragedy, which occurred at about 7:00 a.m. local time (2400 GMT Monday), had "100 percent credibility."

Residents Protest Before UN Envoy

BK1211052091 Hong Kong AFP in English 0512 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Text] Jakarta, Nov 12 (AFP)—Indonesian soldiers fired on a crowd of mourners Tuesday at a cemetery in Dili, Eastern Timor, causing "many deaths," a reliable source said here. There were "probably dozens of victims killed or wounded" at a memorial service for a Timor youth who was killed on October 28, the source said, requesting anonymity.

He said the people reporting the tragedy, which occurred at about 7:00 a.m. (2400 GMT Monday), had "100 percent credibility." An unspecified number of soldiers arrived during a religious ceremony at the Santa Cruz cemetery which was being held in memory of one of two young men who died in Dili under mysterious circumstances.

The Indonesian Army spokesman was unreachable early Tuesday, and the reason for the firing was unknown. Almost simultaneously, at 8:00 a.m., one source said, East Timorese nationalists demonstrated outside the Resende hotel in Dili where United Nations Human Rights Commission envoy Peter Kooymans arrived Monday.

Kooymans, from the Netherlands, specializes in the problem of torture, diplomatic sources told AFP [AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE]. East Timor, a former Portugese colony, was unilaterally annexed by Indonesia in 1976. The United Nations recognizes only Portugese sovereignty over East Timor pending a referendum.

Commander Calls For Calm

BK1211072491 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0700 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Text] Brigadier General Warouw, commander of East Timor Operation Command, has called on the public in Dili to remain calm and to avoid being influenced by misleading reports. The commander made this call because a group of youths influenced by the GPK [Security Disturbance Movement] held a rally to oppose the East Timor integration into Indonesia this morning in Dili. After the rally, security authorities managed to seize a number of rifles, grenades, and some documents from the youths. Brig. Gen. Warouw noted that security is now under control following this morning's incident.

Resistance Claims 100 Casualties

BK1211084491 Hong Kong AFP in English 0832 GMTdd

[Text] Sydney, Nov 12 (AFP)—More than 100 people may have been killed or wounded when Indonesian soldiers opened fire on a crowd Tuesday in the East Timor capital of Dili, the island's Fretilin resistance movement was quoted as saying. In a report from the northern Australian city of Darwin, AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATED PRESS quoted Fretilin spokesman

Alfreda Ferreira as saying he had received reports of 100 people killed or wounded in the shooting.

But Ferreira said he had been unable to confirm the figures. Ferreira said he had made contact with an acquaintance in Dili for about 30 seconds before the telephone went dead. "I only wanted to confirm the person was alive. They only had the chance to tell me the situation was 'too bad'," Ferreira was quoted as saying.

Laos

Diplomatic Relations Established With Norway

BK1211033291 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 12 Nov 91

["Joint statement" issued by the Lao People's Democratic Republic government and the government of the Kingdom of Norway on the establishment of diplomatic relations; place and date not given]

[Text] Implementing the principles of the UN Charter and with the desire to establish relations of friendship and cooperation in areas of mutual interest on the basis of equality, noninterference in internal affairs, and respect for one another's independence and territorial integrity, the government of the LPDR and tje government of the Kingdom of Norway have agreed to establish diplomatic relations at the ambassadorial level, beginning at 1200 on 12 November 1991.

Kaysone Phomvihan Leaves for Paris Summit

BK1111064291 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0500 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] On the afternoon of 10 November Kaysone Phomvihan, president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], left Vientiane on a special plane for Paris to attend the fourth summit meeting of francophone countries, which will be held from 19 to 21 November 1991 in Paris, France.

President Kaysone Phomvihan was seen off at Wattai Airport by Nouhak Phoumsavan, chairman of the National Assembly; Khamtai Siphandon, prime minister; and Phoun Sipaseut, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs; along with ministers, deputy ministers, and many high-ranking cadres. Also on hand to see off the president were Daniel Dupont and Nikhom Tantemsap, respectively ambassadors extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the French Republic and the Kingdom of Thailand to the LPDR. In the official departure ceremony at the airport, after paying respects to the national anthem, President Kaysone Phomvihan reviewed the guard of honor of the Lao People's Army [LPA] amid the playing of the national anthem by the LPA musical band. He also walked through rows of people who had joined the ceremony.

Somlat Chanthamat Receives PRC Delegation

BK1211101691 Vientiane KPL in English 0902 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Text] Vientiane, Nov 12 (KPL)—Mr. Somlat Chanthamat, Political Bureau member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee [CC], head of the party CC Board of Propaganda and Training, yesterday received here a visiting delegation of the People's Republic of China led by its deputy minister of culture, Mr. Xu Wenbo.

S. Chanthamat praised the visit to Laos to exchange cultural experience and promote cooperation between the two ministries. The Chinese cultural delegation arriving here on November 8 will leave for home today.

Youth Delegation Leaves for PRC Visit 10 Nov

BK1211095891 Vientiane KPL in English 0903 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Text] Vientiane, Nov 12 (KPL)—A delegtion of the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union Central Committee led by its first secretary, Mrs. Thongvin Phomvihan, on November 10 left here on a week-long visit to China.

The visit was paid at the invitation of the Communist Youth Union of China Central Committee.

SRV-PRC Summit Meeting Termed 'Significant'

BK1211055591 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 9 Nov 91

[PASASON 9 November feature: "The Vietnamese-Chinese Summit Meeting Is a Significant Event"]

[Text] According to a news report from Hanoi, on 5 November a top-level SRV delegation headed by Do Muoi, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, and Vo Van Kiet, chairman of the Council of Ministers, left for an official friendship visit to the PRC at the invitation of Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, and Li Peng, premier of the PRC. News reports from Beijing have indicated that the Chinese party, government, and people organized a grand ceremony at Tiananmen square to welcome the SRV delegation in an enthusiastic and dignified manner.

At the first meeting held at Tiananmen People's Hall, the SRV leaders expressed their wholehearted thanks to the party, government, and people of China for the grand and dignified welcome. They also recalled the fine relations the two countries have maintained since ancient times. The Chinese side also welcomed this visit, the first paid to China by a top-level Vietnamese delegation since the misunderstanding emerged between the two countries over the past 10 years or so. The Chinese side stressed that the incident has passed and that party and state leaders of the two countries—Vietnam and

China—have now recalled the traditional solidarity and cooperation they maintained in the past. They noted determination to do away with the grudge arising over the past decade as a result of the different attitudes over the Cambodia issue. They have sought to ensure blooming solidarity and cooperation for the future in order to jointly develop and build their respective prosperous countries.

In late October, Vo Van Kiet, chairman of the SRV Council of Ministers, also visited countries in the ASEAN group. The purpose of the visit was to create mutual understanding, improve friendly relations and cooperation, and together bring about peace, stability, and cooperation to Southeast Asia. It is obvious that the SRV's top-level party and state delegation's official visit to the PRC on this occasion is beneficial to both countries, as it puts to an end the tension in their relations. This visit is also beneficial to the consolidation of peace, stability, and cooperation in Southeast Asia.

Therefore, this visit to the PRC by the top-level Vietnamese delegation is considered a significant event. Dang Nghiem Hoang, Vietnamese ambassador to China, has said: The visit to China by the Vietnamese leaders on this occasion has marked a milestone of the normalization of the relations between the two countries. It is, therefore, beneficial to the peoples of the two countries and favors peace, stability, and cooperation in Southeast Asia.

Philippines

Manglapus To Visit Burma 'Before' Dec

HK1111082491 Hong Kong AFP in English 0800 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Manila, Nov 11 (AFP)—Philippine Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus said Monday he would visit Burma before the end of the month, but not as a human rights envoy for Southeast Asia. Manglapus hinted, however, that he had asked to see detained opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi and that Burma's human rights record would come up in discussions with Rangoon leaders.

The foreign secretary was selected as special human rights envoy to Burma by the six-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in July. But he told an airport press conference here that he was not visiting Burma as an ASEAN representative.

"This is going to be a bilateral visit. This is a visit in which I would be received by the government of Myanmar (Burma) as foreign minister of the republic of the Philippines," he said. "It looks as if I'm representing ASEAN but the truth is I'm going there in my capacity as foreign minister of the Republic of the Philippines."

Manglapus, on his way to attend the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum in South Korea, said he was unsure whether he would meet Nobel peace laureate Aung San Suu Kyi. "Whether or not I would get to visit the Nobel Peace Prize winner, that is something that I am not in a position to answer," he said. "We have not yet thrashed this out with the Myanmese (Burmese) Government."

Aung San Suu Kyi, who has been under house arrest for more than two years, heads the National League for Democracy, which swept elections last year but was not allowed to assume power from the military junta. "Obviously in visiting Myanmar, we are not only going to take up bilateral matters," Manglapus said, adding that human rights may come up.

"As an element of the international situation, I don't think we can exclude any issue at all," he said. Manglapus said while in Seoul for the regional economic conference he would also discuss bilateral issues with officials there. He also announced that Seoul has donated 50,000 dollars' worth of goods for survivors of freak flooding in the central Philippines last week.

New Charges Filed Against Marcos Family

HK1211093791 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Italicized passages in English]

[Text] The Office of the Solicitor General has filed a second set of criminal charges against former First Lady Imelda Marcos and three of her children. In DZRH's Liberty in Action program, Solicitor General Frank Chavez said that all the cases filed against the Marcoses are based on documents that came from Switzerland. According to Chavez, Mrs. Marcos will be charged on 17 counts due to her violation of Central Bank Circular No. 960 in relation to foreign reserves restrictions. Here is part of Solicitor General Frank Chavez's statement:

[Begin Chavez recording] There are 17 counts against Mrs. Marcos *and this involves violation of Central Bank foreign exchange restrictions,* which was consolidated in 1983 in Central Bank Circular 960. This circular intended to prohibit *Phillipine residents from maintaining foreign currency deposits abroad.* [end recording]

Imelda Marcos To Lead New Society Movement

HK1211113691 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1100 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Text] During the Whispers and Discussions session [name as heard] at the Philippine Plaza, Ferdinand Bong Bong Marcos, Jr. has revealed that Irene Marcos Araneta and Imee Marcos Manotoc will return home only if they can bring the remains of the late President Ferdinand Marcos with them.

Here is Ron Bayani with the details:

[Begin Bayani recording] The younger Marcos said that he was convinced the Aquino government would reverse its decision about his late father's remains and would agree to let them come home. According to him, this will then pave the way for his two sisters and other relatives and friends of the Marcos family, who are still abroad, to return to the country.

At the same time, Bong Bong Marcos said that he has no plans to run for senator in the coming elections, because he is still too young to participate in national politics. He also said that he will revive the New Society Movement, KBL, a political machine created by his father when he was still president. The former First Lady Imelda Marcos will lead the party. [end recording]

Aquino Affirms Delay on Nuclear Plant Payments

HK1111113691 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Malacanang has again reiterated its stand of delaying the debt payments on the Bataan Nuclear Power Plant. Here is Tanny Rodriguez with the details.

[Begin Rodriguez recording] The president made this statement to dismiss Senator Rene Saguisag's statement that Central Bank Governor Jose Cuisia and Finance Secretary Jesus Estanislao were going back on an agreement with the president to put a hold on the debt buy-back program for the nuclear power plant.

The president reiterated that the debt buy-back program for the mothballed Bataan Nuclear Power Plant remains on hold while the government is awaiting the results of an investigation she has ordered the Montenegro committee to conduct. [end recording]

Aquino Praises Foreign Nongovernmental Aid

HK1111043091 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 11 Nov 91 p 3

[Text] President Aquino yesterday pushed for the continued cooperation between volunteer nongovernmental organizations [NGO] such as the Organization for Industrial, Spiritual and Cultural Advancement (OISCA), a Japanese NGO, for the country's development.

Mrs. Aquino also moved for greater interaction between Philippine NGO's and other foreign volunteer organizations as she ordered the review of existing government restrictions on such groups.

"I understand that certain legal issuances and implementing guidelines restrict the number of expert volunteers from other countries at any one time in our country. This, and other restrictions are also a concern of other foreign NGO's which would like to provide more technical and developmental aid for our country," the President noted.

The President directed the Philippine National Volunteer Service Coordinating Agency (PNVSCA) to review the legal framework for foreign volunteers from NGOs with development projects in the country. The move was brought about by certain restrictions on the number of expert volunteers who would like to provide more assistance for the country.

The President lauded the OISCA and she conferred the presidential citation to Yoshiko Nakano, daughter of the founder of OISCA and president of the organization, in Malacanang.

"Your quiet, consistent and constructive work is the surce of the inspired examples of hope and self-reliance for our most marginalized rural folk," Mrs. Aquino noted as she emphasized the great assistance of the OISCA to some 5,000 worker-farmer beneficiaries.

Mrs. Aquino also appealed to the OISCA officials to extend their assistance to the displaced families and victims of Mt. Pinatubo and typhoon Uring.

Aquino Condemns Illegal Logging in Leyte

HK1111114391 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] President Aquino has assured that illegal loggers will be held responsible for the widespread denudation of Leyte's forests. Here's Tanny Rodriguez with the details.

[Begin Rodriguez recording] Nongovernmental organizations are blaming illegal loggers for the reckless destruction of trees in the mountains of Leyte, especially those in Ormoc City. At the same time, the president has appointed Natural Resources Secretary Fulgencio Factoran to investigate cases of illegal logging in Leyte Province.

Meanwhile, the president defended the Department of Environment and Natural Resources' failure to curb illegal logging in Leyte in the past by pointing out that most of those responsible for the denudation conducted their activities illegally—unknown to the government and without the government's permission.

Speaker Mitra: Aquino Cannot Run in '92 Election

HK1111103791 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 11 Nov 91 pp 1, 2

[By Mariquit Almario]

[Text] A Primer issued by the Constitutional Commission [ConCom] before the ratification of the 1987 Charter clearly states that President Aquino cannot run for reelection, Speaker Ramon Mitra said yesterday. He also said he would ignore the summons issued by Quezon City [QC] Judge Jose de Guzman who wants him to give his opinion on whether Mrs. Aquino is allowed by law to seek reelection.

In an interview with reporters, Mitra said the reelection issue of Mrs. Aquino could be properly answered by a primer prepared by the ConCom when it was still campaigning for the ratification of the Constitution. Mitra said under this primer, which explains several constitutional provisions for the better understanding of the people. Mrs Aquino was not allowed to seek another term.

"The ConCom issued a primer on constitutional provisions. One of the provisions refers to Mrs Aquino's reelection. Here, it clearly states she cannot run again," he said. Mitra said his opinion on the issue was not important for the Qc regional trial court to consider. Mitra added that Judge De Guzman had no business asking the opinion of presidential aspirants on the issue since it is the job of the court, not the candidates, to interpret the law.

Former Defense Secretary Fidel Ramos, meanwhile, said the return of former First Lady Imelda Marcos had resulted in a massive hemorraging of Lakas ng Demokratikong Pilipino [LDP-Struggle of Filipino Democrats] members from the Mitra camp to the Nacionalista Party [NP]. Ramos and Mitra are contesting the LDP presidential nomination for next year's elections.

Ramos urged Mitra to exercise greater discipline over his followers because the unity of the LDP was at stake. Ramos backed his statement by stating that known Mitra loyalists have or will defect to the camps of either the NP's Danding Cojuangco or Salvador Laurel and/or Imelda Marcos.

In Region I [Roman One] Representative Luis "Chavit" Singson (LDP, Ilocos Sur) went to Hawaii to personally escort Mrs Marcos during the flight from Hawaii to the Philippines. Representative Ronnie Zamora (LDP, Mandaluyong) was at the airport to personally welcome Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. upon his arrival at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport from Singapore last November 1.

Representative Luz Bakunawa (formerly LDP) of Masbate joined the Nacionalista Party while Governor Emilio Espinosa (formerly LDP) has also joined the NP. Espinosa's brother, Representative Tito Espinosa of the first district was also contemplating joining the NP, Ramos said.

Ramos said the biggest surprise was the planned move of Camarines Sur. Governor Luis Villafuerte, long regarded as Mitra's chief spokesman, in leaving the LDP and joining Danding Cojuangco in the NP or Cojuangco's splinter group, Ramos said. "What is especially damaging for the LDP in general is that Villafueric controls practically all of the mayors in his province. Thus, all are expected to carry Cojuangco should he file his candidacy for the presidency," Ramos said.

Representative Carlos Imperial of Albay's second district is planning to join the NP and leave the LDP. Representative Edcel Lagman of Albay's first district is also planning to follow Imperial's move. In Sorsogon, the LDP's provincial chairman, lawyer Raul Lee, a former governor under the Marcos administration, has joined the NP.

In Camarines Norte, Governor Casimiro Padilla, Jr., formerly of the LDP, has already been expelled because of his frequent meetings with Cojuangco. He has since joined the NP. Representative Salvador Escudero of Sorsogon has joined the NP from the LDP. Ironically, even former general now Representative Mariano Gutang, the LDP district chairman of North Cotabato, has indicated his desire to join the NP.

"We are now witnessing the disintegration of my good friend Monching Mitra's machinery. He has fought the good fight with honor—and lost," Ramos said. "Mitra now no longer has the moral authority to seek votes in the LDP national convention, because support for him is fast eroding," Alvarez said, an LDp member from Olutanza Island, Zamboanga del Sur, declared. [sentence as published]

Senate President Jovito Salonga called on Liberal Party [LP] men to immediately implement the party's comprehensive economic development program to ensure an LP victory in 1992. At the same time, Salonga announced more nominees to the party's senatorial slate which will be finalized during the LP national convention early next year when the party's standard bearer and his runningmate will be selected.

Salonga, LP president, added there was a need to reverse the trend of nearly two decades of stagnant income levels. "Our conviction is that democracy flourishes in conditions of economic growth and stability," he said. He said the LP economic program was part of the cornerstone of an LP administration in the event of the party's victory in next year's elections.

Those who are being seriously considered for the LP senatorial ticket are Finance Undersecretray Diosdado Macapagal Jr., son of former President Macapagal; Silliman University President Cicero Calderon; Government Service Insurance System and Philippine Airlines President Feliciano Belmonte' former Representatives Florencio Abad; Princess Tarhata Lucman; Representatives Felicito Payumo of Bataan, Alvin Dans of Basilan, Socorro Acosta of Bukidnon, and Cornelio Mascarino of Davao; former Constitutional Commissioner Wilfrido Villacorta; Rosario Briad; former University of the Philippines Vice President Dioscoro Umali; and construction magnate David Consunji.

Enrile Affirms Position as NP Secretary General

HK1111021491 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Text] Senate minority floorleader Juan Ponce Enrile stressed that he remains Nacionalista Party [NP] secretary general despite his expulsion by Vice President Salvador Laurel and the NP Central Council. Enrile added that he will continue to hold office at the NP headquarters in Makati, Metro Manila because the party's records are still in his hands.

Laurel's expulsion of Enrile, former Ambassador Eduardo Danding Cojuangco, and five others for allegedly violating party regulations was dismissed by every individual expelled. Enrile has given a statement, which said that he remains NP secretary general and added that the national directorate will push through with its meeting despite Laurel's opposition. The senator also asked Laurel and Cojuangco to attend the meeting to be held at the Philippine Village Hotel this coming Friday.

Government Requests $3 Billion Aid From Japan

HK1211032291 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 12 Nov 91 p 12

[By Arleen C. Chipongian]

[Text] The Philippines has formally requested the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund (OECF) for a $3-billion 18th yen loan package to help finance 40 vital government projects.

This proposal would be a big jump from the $900 million that the government obtained under the 17th yen loan package that was finalized last July.

Under the 17th yen loan package, the OECF allocated $600 million to finance 13 government projects, mostly infrastructure, and $300 million in so-called quick-disbursing program loans.

Takeshi Yagi, economic officer of the Japanese embassy in Manila, said 30 percent to 40 percent of the previous yen loan packages were made up of program loans that could be used by the Philippine government for budgetary support.

However, he said that no formal request for a bigger amount of these quick-disbursing program or commodity loans had been made by the Philippine government.

It is expected though that the Philippines would seek more program loans in view of its continued problem in sourcing adequate peso-counterpart funds required by international financial institutions prior to the disbursement of their project loans. The peso financing normally amounts to 25 percent to 30 percent of the cost of the project to be financed by official development assistance (ODA) loans.

Yagi said that the so-called enhancement funds requested from the OECF to help finance the Philippines' debt-reduction program being negotiated with foreign commercial banks could come from the 18th yen loan package.

He explained, however, that the Japanese financial institution would not be allocating specific credits as enhancement funds, adding that these could come in the form of quick-disbursing program loans.

The enhancement funds being sought from the OECF, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) would be used to buy part of the country's debt to the foreign commercial banks at big discounts.

The Japanese embassy official also said that formal commitment by Japan of the 18th yen loan package would be made in the scheduled third pledging session for the Philippine Assistance Program (PAP) set in February 1992 in Hong Kong.

Yagi reiterated his government's policy of coursing all its ODA commitments through the PAP pledging sessions.

What this means is that if no pledging session would be held in February next year, Japan would have no chance to provide ODA to the Philippines for its fiscal year from April 1991 to March 1992.

The OECF is one of the country's biggest source of cheap loans with interest rates of only 2.7 percent and a repayment period of 30 years, inclusive of a 10-year grace period.

Some of the projects under the 17th yen loan package included the Metro Manila interchange construction project, the Mactan international airport development project, the Batangas port development project, the maritime safety improvement project, the Pampanga delta development project, the rural road network development project, and the environment and natural resources sector adjustment program.

Government Asks IMF To Approve Bigger Deficit

HK1211042091 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 12 Nov 91 p 12

[Text] The Philippines has asked the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to allow the national government to incur a bigger budget deficit of P [Philippine pesos] 15.5 billion in 1992, INQUIRER sources in government said yesterday.

This would be much bigger than the P3.8-billion deficit committed by the country under the IMF-sponsored economic stabilization program that will run through 1992.

The request was formally made yesterday during the start of the IMF review on whether or not the Philippines had complied with the fiscal and monetary targets outlined in the stabilization program.

The sources said the P15.5-billion deficit request would include some P2.1 billion expected to arise from expenses related to the rehabilitation work on areas damaged by Mt. Pinatubo's eruptions.

At the start of the meeting with the IMF review mission, the sources said the government presented the 1992 fiscal program wherein revenues have been projected to reach P269.6 billion while expenditures were projected at P283 billion, or a deficit of P13.4 billion. The additional Mt. Pinatubo-related expenses would bring this to P15.5 billion.

The sources pointed out that the P15.5-billion deficit was only a "starting figure" in the discussions with the IMF team, adding that this could either go up or down depending on the outcome of the talks.

They added that the technical meetings with the IMF mission would also inform the Fund of the "uncertainties" in the 1992 fiscal program, including the revenue-enhancement measures that have been projected to bring in P18.7-billion worth of new revenues next year.

The P269.6-million revenue target for 1992 already assumed the income from these are revenue-enhancement measures still pending in Congress. These included the simplified income tax system, value-added tax refinements and the alien-stay legalization measure.

Thailand

Suchinda Urges Compensation for Refugee Burden

BK0911065991 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 9 Nov 91 pp 1, 3

[Text] Thailand should be compensated for the heavy burden of Khmer refugees it has shouldered for 13 years and this could be through a bigger stake of restoration work in Cambodia, Supreme Commander Gen Suchinda Khraprayun said yesterday. At Air Force headquarters yesterday, Gen Suchinda said this work would create revenue for Thailand which is providing sanctuary for 350,000 Khmers.

"Thailand has shouldered the heaviest refugee burden since the civil war in Cambodia began.

"We had to take this responsibility and have been paying for it. Therefore, we should be allowed to take an active part in the restoration work," he said.

Highway construction and repairs and other major projects which require foreign labour are among work Thailand could undertake. "Thailand should have no less than 60 per cent of the work various countries will be undertaking in restoring Cambodia," Gen. Suchinda said.

He cited in particular the repair of highways around the Cambodian township of Poiphet adjoining Prachinburi Province. Thai and Cambodian authorities have been coordinating work to restore the highway under a project believed to be financed by the United States. Thailand must have this work "because we already have the expertise in this field," Gen Suchinda said.

Thailand would soon sign a memorandum of understanding with the United Nations' high Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR] and the Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC] to repatriate Cambodian refugees.

"Thailand must receive certain benefits from this agreement and we do not want to be disadvantaged on this issue.

"We have shouldered the refugee burden for a long time and we should be given some benefits," Gen Suchinda said.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Sakthip Krairoek said Thailand needs a total assurance that all Cambodian refugees in border camps will be repatriated and reintegrated permanently in their homeland, and that Thailand will get proper compensation for the 13-year burden.

The Thai position will be repeated when the tripartite memorandum of understanding detailing UN-sponsored repatriation of the Khmers is finalised. The three parties to the agreement are Thailand, the UNHCR and Cambodia's the SNC. The repatriation document is expected to be signed in Phnom Penh later this month by SNC President Prince Sihanouk, UNHCR Prof Sadako Ogata and Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin.

Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees Douglas Stafford is due to visit border camps in Thailand from Tuesday to Thursday to oversee preparations for an orderly repatriation. "Thailand wishes to see all the Cambodians return and be integrated to ensure their non-return," Mr. Sakthip said.

Thailand ought to be compensated in rehabilitating areas—previously arable land—which have been used to build camps for the Cambodians, he said. "Those sites, which served as shelters for the Cambodians, should be restored to their original state for proper land use." Thailand is also prepared to assist in landmine clearance, a task in which the country has expertise, he said.

Suchinda Says Air Force Needs More F-16's

BK0911103991 Bangkok NAEO NA in Thai 9 Nov 91 p 3

[Text] General Suchinda Khraprayun, supreme commander and Army commander in chief, yesterday visited the Air Force headquarters at Don Muang. He later told reporters that he was briefed on the arrangement and operations of air force units and added that the budget was not discussed during the visit. He stressed, however, that it is his duty to support any request for a larger budget.

Asked about the Air Force's need to procure F-16 jet fighters despite the improvement of the security situation outside the country, General Suchinda said that, while people in general have seen the situation outside the country improve, the soldiers must be combat-ready; otherwise, if a war broke out tomorrow, the Armed Forces would be paralyzed because they did not have enough weapons to fight. Weapon procurement takes time; for example, if we made contacts for the purchase of F-16's today, it might take three years for us to get the planes. Furthermore, the Air Force has not yet acquired enough F-16's to enable it to become a combat force. As far as he knew, the Air Force still needs to buy another squadron. General Suchinda stressed that the Armed Forces understands the country's budget constraints.

Anan Says Recognition Not Issue in U.S. Visit

BK1211025991 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 12 Nov 91 p 1

[Text] Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun yesterday denied reports that his visit to the U.S. set tentatively for next month was at the invitation of the private sector because Washington did not recognise undemocratic governments.

Mr. Anan is expected to meet U.S. President George Bush during the visit.

"He (President Bush) is prepared to meet me. And when we meet, it can be assumed that the discussion will touch on bilateral matters," he said.

"I don't know what you mean by a formal meeting," he said when asked about the tone of the meeting, "but I will go and see him."

Mr. Anan, when asked whether the visit indicated the U.S. recognised his interim government, said:

"I don't understand why there continues to be newspaper reports that the Thai Government has not been recognised. We have been in office for eight months, and we have been in contact with all countries.

"Therefore, there's no longer a question of recognition, but the newspapers don't seem to understand. I don't understand why this is."

Mr. Anan said a meeting agenda with President Bush had yet to be determined.

Deputy Minister Says Relations With Burma Good

BK0811152891 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 8 Nov 91

[Text] In response to a report that Burma has constructed 30 roads to the Thai border, Deputy Defense Minister General Wimon Wongwanit told reporters at the National Assembly that there is no problem involved and emphasized that Burma is still our friend and good neighbor. The government has a policy of maintaining good relations with any country which poses us no threat, even though that country may have a bad image in the eyes of other foreign countries. Building roads to the Thai border does not pose any security problem.

Asked to comment on the issue of cutting trade relations with Burma, General Wimon said that we must first take into account national interests. Will we let other countries trade with Burma if we do not? Regarding the pressure foreign countries exert by not buying goods from Thailand, the deputy defense minister said that we must be free to carry out our national policies, but added that we will not implement any policy which runs counter to international public opinion.

Security Chief Accepts Burmese Road Project

BK0911081791 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 9 Nov 91

[Text] General Charan Kunlawanit, secretary general of the National Security Council, has said that the government will in principle look after all Thai citizens no matter where they are. He was speaking in response to questions on how to protect private Thai companies that have logging concessions in Burma.

Thailand and Burma maintain good relations. They can talk to each other and jointly settle any problems that may occur in the future.

Regarding a news report that Burma has a plan to build roads along the Thai border, the secretary general of the National Security Council said that the relevant agencies had not received that report. The government and its relevant agencies are responsible for considering the construction of any roads inside Thai territory. It is the country's duty to have enough roads for traffic and security, and we have now built many roads in the country or border areas. The construction of roads inside Burma is that country's affair, and Thailand will not get involved in the matter.

Burmese Opposition Urges Visit Cancellation

BK0811154691 Hong Kong AFP in English 1113 GMT 8 Nov 91

[Text] Bangkok, Nov 8 (AFP)—Burma's jungle-based parallel government has appealed to the Thai minister of agriculture to cancel a planned trip to Rangoon later this month. They said his visit, and the logging deals he is reported to be seeking to extend, will only bolster the position of Burma's junta which international human rights groups have accused of flagrant human rights violations.

The National Coalition Government of the Union of Burma (NCGUB) is "greatly annoyed to hear the news of (Thai Agriculture Minister) Anat Aphaphirom's plan to visit Burma to extend logging contracts," the NCGUB said in a statement released on Friday.

Anat is scheduled to visit Rangoon from November 28 to December 1 for the primary purpose, according to local press reports, of extending some of the logging contracts which Thai companies have with the Rangoon military government. "It is no secret that about 30 Thai logging companies are dealing with the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC, the official name of the Burmese junta)," the NCGUB said.

"They are viewed by the people of Burma as supplying the SLORC with hard currency for buying modern weapons," the statement said, adding: "The NCGUB is much concerned about the flow of foreign currency into the coffers of the SLORC through the extension of logging contracts."

Anat called off a planned official visit to Burma in August. At the time he said pressure of work was to blame, but ministry sources said increased international pressure on the Burmese junta led to the decision. The NCGUB praised the chairman of one Thai logging company who recently announced because of increasing expenses demanded by the Burmese government his firm would not be seeking to renew concessions there. The NCGUB urged other Thai companies to cease their operations in that country.

UN Cambodia Mission Chief Meets Minister

BK0811151891 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 8 Nov 91

[Text] Sakthip Krairoek, director general of the Foreign Ministry's Information Department, reported that Ataul Karim, a Bangladeshi diplomat who is heading the United Nations Advance Mission in Cambodia, called on Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin today, prior to his departure for Cambodia tomorrow. During the meeting, Karim expressed concern over the United Nations' responsibility for restoring peace in Cambodia, because this is the largest task the United Nations has ever undertaken.

The United Nations Advance Mission in Cambodia, which will travel to Cambodia tomorrow, consists of 275 persons—200 troops from Indonesia in charge of looking after military affairs and 75 civilian officials from Australia in charge of installing communications equipment to monitor the cease-fire between each faction. Five offices will be set up.

The director general of the Foreign Ministry's Information Office also said that the deputy director of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees will meet with the foreign minister on 13 November to discuss conditions for the repatriation of Cambodian refugees. If there is consent from all parties, an agreement between Thailand, Cambodia, and the United Nations will be signed when the foreign minister visits Cambodia. Thailand wants all Cambodian refugees to return to their country and have enough land to earn a living, so they will not need to return to Thailand, as Thailand has used a great deal of farm land to build refugee camps.

King Appoints Supreme Court Head, Ends Conflict

BK0911112191 Bangkok THE NATION in English 9 Nov 91 pp A1, 2

[Text] His Majesty the King yesterday signed a royal decree appointing Appeals Court Chief Justice Sawat Chotiphanit as the new Supreme Court president, ending a weeks-long conflict in the judiciary and defusing a potential political crisis for Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun.

The announcement was hailed by Justice Minister Praphat Uaichai, who had pushed for the appointment in a bitter battle against a group of dissident judges led by former Justice Minister Praman Chansu. At first the Judicial Commission, dominated by Praman's faction, voted on Sept 24 for the appointment of Prawit Khampharat, chief justice of Appeals Court Zone 1, as Supreme Court president, but Praphat refused to acknowledge the appointment.

Following the retirement of Praman's colleagues in the commission on Sept 30, the new Judicial Commission moved to Praphat's side and endorsed Praphat's list of senior judge appointments, including that of Sawat, on Oct 3.

Yesterday's announcement indicated that the royal approval was given to Sawat's appointment only, not other promotions.

Praphat told THE NATION last night he appreciated the decision by His Majesty the King and expected the uproar to come to an end.

"The problem has been settled. Nobody can question His Majesty the King's wisdom. And it proved that the right side won," he said.

He said that the dissident judges should call off the plan to stage a demonstration today.

"Everybody should be satisfied with the ruling by His Majesty. But if anybody isn't, that's their business," he said.

But the minister insisted that the investigation he had ordered into some of the dissident judges for alledgedly instigating disorder would continue.

"The committee formed by the Justice Ministry will complete its investigation and leave it to the Judicial Commission to decide on he results of the probe," he said. Pramarn is among the judges being investigated for allegedly disciplinary offences.

At the same time the minister insisted that he was not trying to settle scores with anyone.

"I do not consider anyone wrong in the issue. I just consider it a difference of opinions," he said.

Praphat denied reports that he would resign as a result of a "gentleman's agreement" with the premier.

"There was no deal. No resignation and no agreement. I can assure that I won't resign at least for now," he said.

Udom Fuangfung, a leading dissident judge who has been coordinating the campaign against Praphat told THE NATION he would not cancel plans for the dissident judges to rally at the World Trade Centre.

"We are not opposing any appointment—what we are against now is the act of interference by a justice minister. If the meeting agreed that there was political interference, we will discuss our next moves; otherwise we will end our campaign," he said.

He said his group accepted Sawat's royal appointment.

Before the announcement last night, the outcome of the months-long conflict over the Supreme Court presidency was hanging in the balance following a petition by a group of university lecturers, asking His Majesty the King to deny endorsement to Praphat's choice.

Source close to a privy councillor said earlier yesterday the Privy Council was divided as to whether HM the King should endorse Praphat's nomination supported by the incumbent Judicial Commission on Oct 3 or that of the previous nomination on Sept 2.

"The Privy Council is considering the matter, taking into account the petition submitted by a group of university law lecturers," one of the sources said.

The sources noted that Anan would face a political crisis if His Majesty the King refused to endorse the nomination.

"If the Oct 3 Judicial Commission ruling was not signed by His Majesty, Prime Minister Anan might have to consider stepping down," said a source.

Anan, asked to comment on the disclosure of an informal discussion on the judicial row at which the premier was said to have given assurances that he would present Prawit's Sept 2 nomination to His Majesty, criticized former Supreme Court president Sophon Rattanakon, one of the leading members of the anti-Praphat faction of juges, for disclosing the discussion to further his own cause.

"I may be an old-fashioned person who is not used to the new Thai custom of making public topics of informal discussion," the prime minister said.

Mekong Meeting Ends in SRV-Thai Deadlock

BK0911072791 Bangkok THE NATION in English 9 Nov 91 p A2

[Text] The quadrapartite Mekong Comittee ended a closed-door meeting on Thursday without reaching an agreement to reactivate the committee, which became inoperative when Cambodia dropped out in 1975.

The Cambodian delegation, headed by Phnom Penh Foreign Minister and Supreme National Council (SNC) member Hor Nam Hong, attended the four day meeting which began on Monday with the intention of signing a joint declaration with the other three founding members to reactivate the committee, formed in 1957, but was disappointed with the dispute between Thailand and Vietnam over an amendment to the 1957 basic document governing the use of water resources by the four riparian states.

Sources at the meeting said Thailand initially wanted to make a whole-sale amendment to the basic document, which it claimed was outdated, but later accepted the idea of limited amedments. But it still insisted on using the procedural rules of the Interim Mekong Committee (IMC) to govern the reactivated committee pending the revision to the 1957 text, according to the source. Thailand, Vietnam and Laos united under the Interim Mekong Comittee in 1978 pending the return of Cambodia to the group.

The source said that Vietnam was insisting on operating by the 1957 text while the revision process is going on.

The closing session of the third day ran into the night without a compromise solution being reached but the participants agreed to consult their respective governments and to meet again as soon as possible, the source said.

The committee tentatively agreed to meet sometime in December to sign the declaration if the final draft is approved by the respective governments.

Despite four days of squabbling over a possible amendment to the 1957 text, the committee, with the full participation of Cambodia, was able to adopt a 1992 work programme for Cambodia estimated to cost US$24 million and covering 16 projects, most of which are short-term or immediate-need in nature.

These projects are to include the improvement of irrigation systems, the improvement of hydro-meteorological networks and river transportation systems, repair work on ports and bridges and the restoration of the Prek Thnot multi-purpose dam.

The committee also discussed its future expanded role in helping Cambodia formulate a plan for water resources development.

Deputy Secretary-General of the National Energy Administration, Mohar Singh Monga, has earlier denied that Thailand had placed any conditions on the re-entry of Cambodia to the Mekong Committee.

Because of a dispute over a draft joint declaration to reactivate the Mekong Committee, private discussions were held between the IMC and the SNC delegation representing a united Cambodia.

Mohar Singh rejected criticism that Thailand's proposal to amend the original 1957 documents—governing the use of water resources by the four riparian states—for inclusion in the declaration posed a stumbling bloc to the official reinstatement of Cambodia. "We are not to be blamed for this," he said.

Mohar Singh said represenatives of all four members, including Cambodia, already had agreed to the draft at a preparatory meeting on Sept 2 but Vietnam later said at short notice that it would like to change that draft.

In the original draft of Sept 2, all members agreed that the basic documents of 1957 needed amendmment, as they had proved outdated. Pending the revision of the documents all members would agree to apply the interim rules of the IMC, Mohar Singh explained.

But he said Vietnam later proposed that the basic 1957 documents be applied pending the revision.

Minister Urges Fair Trade by Developed World

BK0911072291 Bangkok THE NATION in English 9 Nov 91 p B2

[Text] Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on called on industrialized countries to liberalize their farm policies, rid developing countries of "sheer poverty," and level the "playing field" for international agricultural trade.

In his opening address to the conference on the impact of political changes in Europe on Thailand's agricultural policies, the Minister attributed grave social problems such as child abuse, prostitution, and environmental degradation in developing countries, inlcuding Thailand, to those countries' inability to compete fairly with industrial counterparts in farm trade.

Massive export subsidies, market restrictions, and income supports for farmers in the rich countries have crippled Thai farm exports, according to the Minister.

While the average import tariff rate of manufactured goods in Thailand has been cut to 30 per cent, and is only five per cent for machinery, rice exports to the European Community are still facing a hefty import tax of 200 per cent.

Moreover, prices of Thai products are depressed in the world market because subsidized commodities from the European Community (EC), the United States, and Japan are dumped into the market, creating an unfair environment in which to trade.

Unless these "unfair" policies are done away with, economic growth in developing countries, including the Eastern European countries and the Soviet Union, whom the West intends to assist, cannot be sustained, Amaret said.

Preferential trade arrangements that are being discussed between the EC and its democratizing neighbours in the Eastern bloc should be extended to the rest of the world, given the fact that the livelihood of the majority of Thai people is not better off than those living in the former communist states, the Minister emphasized.

"The US Farm Act, the EC Common Agricultural Policy, the restrictive agricultural import regimes of Japan, South Korea and Taiwan...could only be regarded as fair if the same sense of fairness is extended beyond their constituencies," the minister said.

Bringing help to Eastern European farmers to improve their standards of living by the removal of trade-distorting policies is to reckon with what Amaret termed, "the human dimension" of development assistance.

Two panelists at yesterday's discussion, organized by the Thailand Development Research Institute (TDRI), suggested that the recent proposal of the EC to "substantialy" reform its Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) will shed light on the stalled Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations which seek to free international trade in goods and services.

The other three speakers, including two representing the Thai perspective, expressed doubts whether the reforms being discussed in the new proposal will actually force the EC to cut subsidies and discourage production.

The revised EC farm package calls for a shift from internal supports tied to output which effectively encourage production, to a system of direct payment to farmers to compensate voluntary reduction of farm acreage. The policy to keep domestic prices in the EC high also works to raise production.

The farm surpluses are currently dumped at prices lower than those prevailing in international markets, hurting farm exports from countries like Thailand.

Agreement To Build Gas Plant Signed With SRV

BK1111024191 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 11 Nov 91 p 17

[Excerpt] The national oil agencies of Thailand and Vietnam have agreed in principle on a joint venture to build a natural gas separation plant in Vietnam at an estimated cost of US$140 million.

Vietnam's Vice-Minister for Heavy Industry, Pham Quoc Tuong, said the Petroleum Authority of Thailand (PTT) and Petro Vietnam had signed a memorandum of understanding on the scheme.

Speaking in Bangkok last Saturday, Mr Tuong said officials of the two agencies were working on the basis that they would equally share the plant's investment cost and that some of its gas output could be exported, possibly to Thailand.

The gas plant, the first of its kind in Vietnam, would be located in Vung Tau, near Ho Chi Minh City, and would have an annual processing capacity of 300 million cubic metres of natural gas.

The gas would be piped from Bach Ho, an offshore oil field in southern Vietnam.

Its output of propane and butane, which makes LPG, would be in the region of 150,000-200,000 tons per year.

The PTT had expressed the desire to import all of the LPG to meet Thailand's increasing demand.

Nguyen Xuan Chuan, director of the ministry's International Cooperation Department, said the PTT would submit a feasibility study of the gas plant project to Petro Vietnam next February.

As yet, no completion date for the gas plant had been set, but it was likely to be in the mid-1990s.

The scheme was part of a $2.1 billion petroleum-related project being planned in Vung Tau and its neighbourhood. The project, a catalyst to new economic development in Vietnam, was aiming to tap associated gas and oil found offshore in southern Vietnam.

The master plan included a $120 million gas pipeline, a $470 million urea plant, a $340 million combined cycle power plant and a $1 billion oil refinery.

The pipeline, to be undertaken by Vietnam, would run from the Bach Ho oil field, about 120 kilometres south of Vung Tau, ashore, feeding the gas plant, the urea factory and the power house, all in the Vung Tau area.

Vietnamese authorities hoped to complete laying the pipe in 1993. [passage omitted]

Vietnam

Delegation Returns After Official PRC Visit

BK1011115791 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Text] Today, 10 November, Comrade Do Muoi, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam and Vo Van Kiet, chairman of the Council of Ministers, who led our high- level delegation for an official visit to the PRC, concluded their visit and returned to Hanoi.

The welcoming reception for the delegation was held solemnly at the Presidential Palace. Attending the reception were Comrade Vo Chi Cong, adviser to the CPV Central Committee and chairman of the Council of State; Pham Van Dong, adviser to the CPV Central Committee; and Le Quang Dao, chairman of the National Assembly.

In attendance were members of the CPV Political Bureau: Le Duc Anh, Dao Duy Tung, Doan Khue, Vu Oanh, Le Phuoc Tho, Phan Van Khai, Bui Thien Ngo, Nong Duc Manh, Pham The Duyet, and Nguyen Duc Binh. In addition, the following members of the CPV Secretariat: Nguyen Ha Phan, Nguyen Dinh Tu, and Do Quang Thang; also were present at the reception.

Also attending the reception were Comrade Nguyen Khanh, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers; Phan Dien, director of the CPV Central Office; Nguyen Dy Nien, deputy minister of foreign affairs; Trinh Ngoc Thai, deputy director of the SRV Foreign Relations Department; and many high-ranking cadres of our party and state.

Li Jiazhong, charge d'affairs of the PRC in Vietnam; many cadres from the Chinese Embassy; and many national and international journalists in Hanoi also attended the reception.

In a friendly atmosphere, Comrade General Secretary Do Muoi expressed his pleasure at our high-level delegation's official visit to China. He stated that the Sino-Vietnamese summit marked the normalization of relations between the two countries, meeting the basic and long-term interests of the Vietnamese and Chinese people, as well as benefitting peace, stability, cooperation, and development in the region.

Comrade General Secretary Do Muoi once again expressed his sincere appreciation for the solemn and warm reception by the Chinese party, state, and people for the Vietnamese delegation.

Government Briefed on Trip

BK1111151991 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] On 11 November, the party Central Committee Political Bureau, the Council of State, and the Council of Ministers were briefed by Comrade General Secretary Do Muoi and Comrade Council of Ministers Chairman Vo Van Kiet on the results of the visit by our country's high-level delegation to China.

The Political Bureau, the Council of State, and the Council of Ministers warmly welcomed the fine results of the visit and talks with Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee; Li Peng, premier of the PRC National People's Congress; President Yang Shangkun; and other Chinese party and government leaders.

The Political Bureau, the Council of State, and the Council of Ministers stressed the very important significance of the Sino-Vietnamese summit, which marks the normalization of the relations between Vietnam and China and opens a new era of development in the good friendship and neighborliness based on the five principles of respect for each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity, non-aggression and non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality, mutual benefit, and peaceful co-existence. The two parties will restore normal relations according to the principles of independence, sovereignty, complete equality, mutual respect, and non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

The Political Bureau, the Council of State, and the Council of Ministers maintained that the normalization of Sino-Vietnamese relations conforms with the fundamental and long-term interests of the two peoples and is an important contribution to peace, stability, and development in the region.

The Political Bureau, the Council of State, and the Council of Ministers instructed all sectors and echelons to take practical measures aimed at implementing the signed agreements and to gradually establish concrete contacts in different domains.

The Political Bureau, the Council of State, and the Council of Ministers expressed sincere thanks for the grand, warm, cordial, and friendly reception that the

Chinese party and state leaders, localities, and Chinese people of all walks of life accorded to the Vietnamese high-level delegation.

'Splendid Success', Achievements Noted

BK1011041491 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0015 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Commentary by Duong Quang Minh: "New Page of Sino-Vietnamese Relations"]

[Text] The official visit to China by the high-level Vietnamese delegation led by comrade General Secretary Do Muoi and Comrade Council of Ministers Chairman Vo Van Kiet at the invitation of Comrade Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the Communist Party of China [CPC] and Li Peng, premier of the PRC State Council, ended with splendid success.

This visit resulted in many significant achievements. First, Sino-Vietnamese relations returned to normal after more than a decade of interruption. Through meetings and talks between comrades Do Muoi and Vo Van Kiet and comrades Jiang Zemin and Li Peng as well as between comrades Do Muoi, Vo Van Kiet and President Yang Shangkun, observers noted that an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding has been strengthened. The Vietnamese side asserted the determination of the entire Vietnamese party and people to persistently advance along the socialist path, continue to implement the renovation undertaking in accordance with the spirit of the Sixth and Seventh Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Congresses, and to promote international relations to create favorable conditions for socioeconomic stabilization and development. The Chinese side briefed the Vietnamese side on activities of the Chinese party and people in accelerating reforms and openness and their firm adherence to socialism.

The Vietnamese side wished the Chinese people, under the CPC leadership, ever greater achievementes in their tasks, thus contributing to peace in Asia and the world.

The Chinese side expressed delight to see the Vietnamese people's achievements and wished them greater successes so as to contribute to strengthening peace, stability, and development in the region.

Regarding relations between the two parties, the two sides asserted the necessity to normalize relations and expressed determination to promote the development of these relations on the principle of independence, sovereignty, equality, and respect for and noninterference in each other's internal affairs.

It is noteworthy that both sides affirmed the determination to strictly adhere to the principle of respecting the independence and self-determination of all nations and promoting cooperation for mutual interest with other countries, considering this the fundamental factor ensuring a new world order for the interest of all nations and in conformity with the common trend for peace and development.

Vietnam and China also manifested the aspiration of each country to further contribute efforts to the cause of peace, stability, and cooperation in Southeast Asia, the Asia-Pacific region, and the world.

There was a period in which the Vietnamese and Chinese peoples experienced abnormal relations. This is a bad thing because it runs counter to the two peoples' aspirations and the long-standing traditional friendship and the solidarity and mutual assistance enjoyed by the two nations in the struggle for national independence and construction. The Vietnamese people have highly treasured friendship with the Chinese people, thereby consistently struggling to achieve the normalization and development of relations between the two countries. With this sentiment, the Vietnamese people are very happy to see measures agreed by both sides at this visit to China by the high-level Vietnamese delegation which are aimed at restoring and developing the multifaceted relations in economic, trade, communications and transportation, postal service, cultural, scientific, and technological cooperation.

We contend that the joint communique signed by both sides and the emergence of the agreement on trade and a provisional agreement on the settlement of questions related to the border issue are documents of important significance. We also welcome agreement reached by the two sides to finalize a number of procedures to reach the signing of agreements on air and sea transportation and postal sevice cooperation, to continue negotiations to restore rail link and promote economic and scientific-technological cooperation and so forth. This has opened up a fine development in the relations between the two countries.

We share an identity of views with comrade General Secretary Jiang Zemin's statement at the see-off ceremony for the Vietnamese delegation in front of the Diaoyutai State Guest House on 7 November that the Sino-Vietnamese relations were as bright as the shining sun today. We also agree with PRC President Yang Shangkun's remark at the meeting with Comrades Do Muoi and Vo Van Kiet in Beijing that the official visit to China by the high-level Vietnamese delegation plays an important role in the history of the relations between the two countries because it closes the past and opens up a new future for the two nations.

NHAN DAN Reviews Visit

BK1111061391 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 10 Nov 91

[11 November NHAN DAN commentary: "The Summit Meeting That Marked the Normalization of Sino-Vietnamese Relations"]

[Text] Our country's high-level delegation led by Comrades Do Muoi and Vo Van Kiet, respective general secretary of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Council of Ministers, has concluded its official visit to China with fine success.

As pointed out in the Sino-Vietnamese joint communique, both sides were satisfied with the improvement and gradual development in the relations and stated that the Sino-Vietnamese summit marked their normalization of relations.

During its stay in China, our country's high-level delegation was given a solemn, warm, and cordial reception by the highest party and state leaders and people of China. The high-level meetings as well as the talks between the Vietnamese and Chinese leaders took place in an atmosphere of friendship, straightforwardness, and mutual understanding.

Affirming the normalization of Sino-Vietnamese relations, both sides established the principles for the development of friendly and good-neighborly relations, namely mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality, mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence.

The Communist Party of Vietnam and the CPC will restore nomral relations on the principles of independence, complete equality, mutual respect, and non-interference in each other's internal affairs. Both sides asserted that the normalization of relations conforms with the fundamental and long-term interests of the peoples of the two countries and also benefits peace, stability, and development in the region.

With the aim of promoting practical development steps in the improvement of bilateral relations in the recent past, during this visit both sides signed an agreement on trade and a provisional agreement on the settlement of common border issues. Both sides also agreed to continue negotiating and completing a number of procedures to pave the way for the possible signing of some other agreements on cooperation in the economic, commercial, scienctific, technological, and cultural domains in accordance with the principles of equality and mutual benefit.

Both sides agreed to continue adopting the necessary measures to make the Sino-Vietnamese border one of peace and friendship, and to negotiate to peacefully and rationally solve the existing problems in their bilateral relations—such as territorial boundary issues and the question of the nationals of one country residing in the other—at an appropriate time.

As specified clearly in the joint communique, the Vietnamese side affirmed that it recognizes the government of the PRC as the sole legal government representing the whole of China. Meanwhile, the Chinese side expressed the understanding that Vietnam and Taiwan only maintain non-governmental economic and trade relations.

Both sides stated that the normalization of Sino-Vietnamese relations would not affect their relations with any third country.

Regarding international issues, both sides supported and welcomed the recent signing in Paris of the accord on an overall political solution to the conflict in Cambodia. Both sides also expressed the hope that all parties involved would fully implement that peace accord and that Cambodia, in the future, would become an independent, peaceful, neutral, and nonaligned country maintaining friendly relations with all neighboring countries.

Both sides held that the new world order must conform with the guidelines and principles of the UN charter and be built on the basis of the five principles of peaceful coexistence.

The success of our high-level delegation's visit to China affirms the goodwill of both sides and their desire to shake off the past and open a brilliant future for Sino-Vietnamese relations.

Through the contacts made between our high-level delegation and the leaders and people of the localities they visited, we can see even more clearly that the normalization has satisfied the earnest aspirations and fundamental and long-term intertests of the peoples of the two countries.

This event of great importance also encourages the restoration and development of the traditional relations of good-neighborliness and friendship between the two countries, thereby ushering in a new stage of Sino-Vietnamese relations to be established on the basis of the guiding principles that suit the present situation.

The normalization, which does not mar their relations with any third country, is a new factor that will contribute positively to the development of the region and the world as a whole.

Our people rejoice at the historic pace of improvement of Sino-Vietnamese relations. Together with the people of China, we will strive to ensure that the normalization of bilateral relations produces positive results. We believe in the brilliant future of the relations of good neighborliness and friendship between Vietnam and China.

Official 'Confident' Boat People Exodus Stopped

HK0911060391 Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 9 Nov 91 p 4

[By Fiona Macmahon in Hanoi]

[Text] Vietnamese officials said yesterday they had used every means at their disposal to stop the illegal exodus from their country and they believed very few boat people would not be arriving in Hong Kong.

The Director of the Consular Department in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr Nguyen Dinh Bin, promised last night that Vietnam was prepared to accept back all those who could not be resettled.

Mr Nguyen said Vietnam had now done its utmost to stop the illegal exodus and he was confident that it had been stopped.

In the first 10 months of this year, 20,162 boat people sailed into Hong Kong compared to 6,598 in the whole of last year.

But none has arrived so far this month, and Mr Nguyen said his Government was now committed to helping Hong Kong resolve the boat people problem, but did not say what means were used to prevent the exodus.

Stressing that the issue was a humanitarian one, Mr Nguyen said it was time for those people who would not be accepted by a third country to end their "forlorn and hard life in exile" and to be accepted back by Vietnam.

He said that even if those sent home today under mandatory repatriation were not volunteers, this was not forced repatriation.

"Once they are not volunteers it does not mean that they are forced.

"This shirt is not white but it is not black—between black and white there are many shades."

He added: "We are trying to solve this issue in the interest of Vietnam and those concerned.

"We are dealing with this problem because we perceive that this issue has caused a lot of difficulties not only for Vietnam but to other countries.

"That is why we have been doing our utmost to get a solution, so we can solve this problem."

He said that if Hong Kong and Vietnam waited for the boat people to volunteer to return, the problem might never be solved.

Mr Nguyen described Hong Kong's first attempt at mandatory repatriation in December 1989 as "very pitful".

But the agreement reached between Britain and Vietnam ensured that boat people would return in an orderly and dignified manner.

The boat people repatriated today, all "double-backers", are expected to land in Hanoi at 10.30 am today.

But Mr Nguyen said that no special arrangements had been made for their return and they would be treated in much the same way as the frequent arrivals under voluntary repatriation programmes.

They will be met by officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs including Mr Nguyen, and the head of the Hanoi office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Mr Jacques Mouchet.

They will then be taken to the transit centre normally used for volunteers.

They will return to their villages on either Monday or Tuesday.

Mr Nguyen welcomed the involvement of the UNHCR and the fact that help would be provided by international agencies to help the boat people re-integrate into their communities.

He said that despite the fact that the Vietnamese had left illegally twice, they would be treated generously and humanely.

Foreign Ministry Confers on 'Forced Repatriation'

BK0911115091 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 9 Nov 91

[Text] Vietnam never accepts forced repatriation of refugees and only welcomes voluntary repatriates on the basis of respect for human rights in an orderly manner and in security.

This is stated by Nguyen Dinh Bin, head of the Consult Department of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry at the press conference in Hanoi Friday [8 November] evening.

On the issue of those who illegally left the country, Mr. Nguyen Dinh Bin said: this issue has existed for quite a long time and it is a serious problem to Vietnam and beyond our will. This problem has been causing a number of difficulties concerning economy, social law and order, and national security and also difficulties to a certain extent to countries of first asylum.

Stemming from Vietnam's internal and external interest, the Vietnamese State has many a time made positive efforts in solving this issue. Vietnam has taken lots of activities to prevent illegal departure and also launched a nationwide campaign to persuade those who dream of a golden chance in other countries [words indistinct].

The Vietnamese Government has also cooperated with international organizations concerned to promote the orderly departure program and the program of voluntary repatriation.

Efforts from the Vietnamese Government and international organizations have brought about the positive results. Mr. Nguyen Dinh Bin further noted that by now the number of Vietnamese boat people in the countries of first asylum is still very high. He reiterated Vietnam's unswerving policy that this is a humanitarian issue, so it must be solved by humanitarian means.

At present, Vietnam has taken further efforts in promoting the settlement of this issue. Now almost all the first asylum seekers have no chance to settle in a third country. Vietnam fully recognizes its responsibility towards its citizens who are having miserable life in the foreign countries. Vietnam is ready to take them back on the basis of respect for the dignity of the immigrants in an orderly manner, in security, and with financial assistance from international organizations thus helping them quickly resettlement.

He added that Vietnam's policy towards these people is the humanitarian policy even they have illegally fled the country and violated country's laws. So far, those who have voluntarily returned home have received the necessary assistance within the country's possibility and they quickly reintegrated into the community at home.

In this spirit, Vietnam has recently discussed with the British and Hong Kong governments the possibilities of receiving those who want to return home.

On 9 November, Vietnam, for the first time, received those boat people who had fled the country for the second time. This issue is part of the complete program of action put forth at the conference in Geneva in June 1989. And of course, we consider the cooperation of international organizations concerned including the High Commissioner for Refugees [HCR].

Earlier in Central Vietnam, an HCR-funded press seminar was held by Radio the Voice of Vietnam to discuss issue of those who illegally left the country and the programs of resettlement of volutary returnees.

Speaking at the seminar, HCR representative in Vietnam reaffirmed the good outcome of Vietnam's efforts in preventing illegal departure and implementing the programs of resettlement of the returnees.

First Double-Backers Repatriated From Hong Kong

BK1011075091 Hanoi VNA in English 0607 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov.10 --Fifty-nine 'double-backers' who had twice fled the country for Hong Kong were repatriated here yesterday by a plane of the Hong Kong Airlines.

This was the first repatriation of the doublebackers, including women and children, in furtherance of an agreement reached between the governments of Vietnam, Great Britain and Hong Kong on the principles of security, order and respect for dignity.

Earlier on November 8, in a press conference here, Nguyen Dinh Bin, head of the Vietnamese Foreign Ministry Consular Department elaborated on the Vietnamese Government's humanitarian policy and its efforts in the settlement of the repatriation of illegal migrants.

"Vietnam does not accept forcible repatriation, but it only accepts repatriation in order, security, and respect for dignity, and with cooperation from concerned international organisations" he stressed.

He ensured that the repatriates will be granted hunane treatment and favourable conditions to come back to normal life.

[Hong Kong AFP in English at 0700 GMT on 10 November carries a Hanoi-datelined item which adds: "Vietnamese police have arrested one of the 59 boat people forcibly repatriated from Hong Kong, relatives and officials said Sunday.

"Nguyen Van Thang, 25, was wanted by police in his hometown Haiphong on criminal charges, according to Trieu Van The, vice director of emigration and immigration at the Vietnamese Interior Ministry.

"Haiphong police arrested him shortly after he arrived Saturday with his pregnant wife Pham Tho Minh, also 25, at the transit center for returned boat people outside Hanoi...

"The said Khang had fled Vietnam because he was wanted by police for allegedly "destroying a project belonging to national security.

"He could not give details, but the charge is equivalent to destroying state property, for example by stealing lengths of telephone cable.

"Khang was taken back to Haiphong and will face trial, The said.

"Jacques Mouchet, Hanoi delegate of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), and British Embassy official Petra Byrd both interviewed Minh on Sunday and said they would investigate the case.

"Vietnam has pledged not to punish any returning boat people for having left the country illegally but does not exempt them from prosecution for crimes committed before their departure."]

Radio Holds Seminar on Illegal Migration 5-6 Nov

BK1211050891 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 7 Nov 91

[Text] A UNHCR [United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees] sponsored press seminar on illegal migration of Vietnamese nationals and the resettlement of voluntary repatriatees was held by the Voice of Vietnam in Danang City on 5-6 November.

Attending the seminar were representatives from the UNHCR, the Office of the Council of Ministers, the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Interior, newsmen from media agencies from the central level and the provinces, and many leading cadres from Quang Nam-Danang and Thua Thien-Hue provinces.

More than 20 reports were presented at the seminar. They analyzed the situation and causes of illegal migration in the central region and suggested measures for the provinces to resolve this issue including the important role of the mass media.

Views were also exchanged on the Vietnamese State's humanitarian policy towards illegal migrants, noting that since the announcement of the EC's decision on assistance for eligible refugees only, the number of migrants has gradually decreased. Due to certain reasons, however, the complex problem will persist.

Much time was spent reviewing past mass media activities. The seminar stressed that newspapers, radio and television stations should promptly and accurately present news and information to strengthen the campaign to illustrate the reality to people and to quash rumors that incite illegal departures.

Council Considers Increasing Foreign Investment

BK1211100791 Hanoi VNA in English 0530 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 12—The Council of Ministers has decided to take a closer look at the feasibility of foreign investment projects in Vietnam by issuing more specific regulations for the assessment of such projects.

The decision, dated November 7, states that the assess process will cover all foreign investment operations including enterprises with 100 percent foreign investment, joint venture enterprises with both Vietnamese and foreign partners with both Vietnamese and foreign partners, and contract-based joint ventures.

A foreign investment enterprise will therefore be subject to assessment of its legal status and the financial liabilities of the foreign investors. Furthermore, the appropriateness of its production goals in the context of Vietnam's soci-economic development strategy will be considered, and the appropriateness of production processes and specific tax regime applied will also be taken into account.

The decision also spells out the level of authority at which licences may be issued and assessments conducted.

Le Quang Dao Congratulates New Soviet Chairmen

BK0811155991 Hanoi VNA in English 1521 GMT 8 Nov 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA November 8—National Assembly Chairman Le Quang Dao has congratulated K.D. Lubenchenko and A. Alimjanov on their elections as chairman of the union, and chairman of nationalities, of the USSR Supreme Soviet, respectively.

Indonesia Signs Forestry Cooperation Agreement

BK0811160591 Hanoi VNA in English 1520 GMT 8 Nov 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 8—Vietnamese Minister of Forestry Phan Xuan Dot and his Indonesian counterpart Hasjrul Harahap signed in Ho Chi Minh City on Nov. 7 an agreement on forestry cooperation between the two countries.

The two sides agreed to invest in the preservation of natural resources in Vietnam, and coordinated in research, personnel training and information exchanges.

After the signing ceremony, the People's Committee of Ho Chi Minh City hosted a banquet in honor of the Indonesian forestry minister and his party.

While in Ho Chi Minh City, the Indonesian delegation visited the boa rearing enterprise in Thu Duc on the city's outskirts and the Ma Da timber plantation in Dong Nai province. The Indonesian delegation presented flood victims in the Mekong River delta with 10,000 US dollars.

The Indonesians left Ho Chi Minh City for home this morning.

Ship Repair Symposium With Singapore, Finland

BK1111071991 Hanoi VNA in English 0554 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Nov. 11—A 6-day symposium on ship repair has just been held in Ho Chi Minh City jointly by the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Posts and the Finnish International Development Agency.

The symposium, which closed on Sunday, heard reports by Finnish and Singaporean experts on the conduct of negotiations, the implementation of contracts, debt clearing, formalities, credits granting, supply of information, and the world market.

Army Delegation Working Visit to Laos Reviewed

BK1011142791 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1300 GMT 3 Nov 91

[Report on visit by a delegation from the Vietnam People's Army General Political Department to Laos]

[Summary] "Recently, a delegation of high-ranking leading cadres of the General Political Department of the Vietnam People's Army [VPA] led by Lieutenant General Le Kha Phieu, member of the party Central Committee and the party Central Committee Military Commission standing body, and head of the VPA General Political Department, paid a working visit to Laos at the invitation of the General Political Department of the Lao People's Army [LPA].

"On hand at the airport to welcome the delegation were Senior Lieutenant General Osakan Thammatheva, member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party [LPRP] Central Committee and head of the LPA General Political Department; Comrade Lieutenant General (Champakhumasan); Comrade Lieutenant General (Sulimabunlut), deputy head of the LPA General Political Deparment; and cadres of different departments and agencies subordinate to the LPA General Political Department."

Upon arrival in the capital city of Vientiane, the VPA General Political Department delegation laid a wreath and paid tribute to the Vientiane City War Dead Monument in memory of those friends, comrades, and outstanding sons and daughters of the multi-ethnic Lao people who have heroically and courageously sacrificed themselves for the cause of the independence, freedom, and prosperity of Laos as well as for the sake of the close militant solidarity and special friendship between Vietnam and Laos.

"The VPA General Political Department delegation also paid a courtesy call on Comrade Senior Lieutenant General Choummali Sai-Gnason, member of the LPRP Central Committee Political Bureau and minister of national defense of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR].

"Lieutenant General Le Kha Phieu briefed Comrade Senior Lieutenant General Choummali on the objectives and work schedule of the VPA and LPA delegations on the occasion of the VPA General Political Department delegation's current visit. Comrade Lieutenant General Le Kha Phieu also conveyed the regards of General Doan Khue, our country's minister of national defense, to Comrade Minister of National Defense Choummali.

"On behalf of all cadres and combatants of the LPA, Minister of National Defense Choummali Sai-Gnason welcomed the delegation's visit and expressed his hope that the visit would be crowned with success."

The VPA and LPA delegations held working sessions in a high sense of urgency and amid an atmosphere of friendship and special militant solidarity between Vietnam and Laos. Comrade Osakan Thammatheva informed our delegation of the results of army- and party-building work and political education in the LPA in the past and especially at present when the world political situation is developing complicatedly. He also briefed our delegation on the results of the LPA's implementation of the Fifth LPRP Congress resolution.

"Comrade Le Kha Phieu expressed his joy at the achievements in many fields that the multi-ethnic Lao army and people have scored so far. He also informed the LPA General Political Department delegation of the results of the renovation undertaking in our country, the situation of our army, and the VPA's implementation of party-building and political work."

"The two delegations unanimously agreed that in the recent past, despite many difficulties, the two armies have constantly maintained their revolutionary nature and traditions, sparing no sacrifices for the struggle to defend the fatherland, safeguard the socialist regime, and build the country. So far, the two armies have always firmly maintained and satisfactorily developed the traditions of friendship and special solidarity between Vietnam and Laos. The two delegations also unanimously adopted a number of measures to further promote cooperation and mutual assistance in the process of carrying out party-building and political work in the days to come based on the spirit of firmly maintaining and developing the special militant solidarity between Vietnam and Laos in the advance toward socialism."

While in the LPDR, the VPA General Political Department delegation visited the Luang Prabang provincial party committee, people's committee, and military command. The delegation also toured the Northern Lao Armed Forces Museum.

Next, the delegation left for the capital city of Vientiane to visit a number of cultural sites and production establishments.

While in the LPDR, the VPA General Political Department delegation participated in a number of activities marking the militant solidarity between Vietnam and Laos organized by some Lao villages and hamlets. The delegation also took part in many performances given by Lao artists in celebration of the close friendship and militant solidarity between Vietnam and Laos.

"On the afternoon of 25 October 1991, Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan, president of the LPDR and chairman of the LPRP Central Committee, cordially received the VPA General Political Department delegation. After being briefed by Lieutenant General Le Kha Phieu on the results of the delegation's working visit to the LPA General Political Department and to other localities in Laos, Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan welcomed the delegation's working visit and exchanged views on a number of issues of common concern for Vietnam and Laos."

Comrade Kaysone Phomvihan expressed the hope that the VPA and LPA General Political Departments would continue to renovate the contents and methods of carrying out party-building and political work in accordance with President Ho Chi Minh's instructions. He also stressed the need for the two general departments to further consolidate cooperation and mutual assistance in order to contribute to firmly protecting each country's socialist fatherland.

"On the afternoon of 27 October, the VPA General Political Department delegation left the capital city of Vientiane for home, successfully concluding its visit to the LPDR."

Present at Wattai Airport to see the delegation off were Comrade Senior Lieutenant Osakan Thammatheva, member of the party Central Committee and head of the LPA General Political Department, and many cadres and combatants of different departments and agencies subordinate to the LPA General Political Department.

Comrade Colonel Tran Cong Ham, military attache of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Embassy in Laos, was present at the farewell ceremony.

Nguyen Van Linh at Ho Chi Minh City Congress

BK0811153291 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 7 Nov 91

[From the press review for 7 November]

[Text] Yesterday, 6 November, the first precinct of Ho Chi Minh city held its second-round party organization congress.

Attending the congress were Comrade Nguyen Van Linh, adviser to the Party Central Committee; Comrade Vo Tran Chi, secretary of the city party committee; and delegations from Hoan Kiem precinct of Hanoi, Hong Bang precinct of Haiphong, Long Xuyen city of An Giang Province, and Dalat city of Lam Dong Province.

The participants heard a report summing up the activities of the party organization in its past term of office.

Addressing the congress, Comrade Vo Tran Chi, secretary of the City Party Committee, said:

As a vanguard party, our party cannot afford to see that the quality of the majority of its members remains at an average level. We must struggle hard to limit the number of this type of members to ensure the vanguard nature of the party. Whoever cannot stand this test of quality should remove himself from the party. That is a rule.

VNA Reviews Hanoi Newspapers for 9 Nov

BK0911101591 Hanoi VNA in English 0607 GMT 9 Nov 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA November 9—The Hanoi press today continues frontpaging reports on the activities of the high-level Vietnamese delegation led by Party General Secretary Do Muoi and Premier Vo Van Kiet in Guangzhou, provincial town of China's Guangdong, on Thursday and Friday. The Vietnamese guests attended a get-together and a banquet given by the Guangzhou leaders in their honour, called on the former offcial of the Vietnam Revolutionary Youth Association, paid tributes to Vietnamese revolutionary martyr Pham Hong Thai at his tomb, and visited the Guangzhou Cosmetic and Chemical Industry Co.

National Assembly Chairman Le Quang Dao has congratulated K. Lubenchenko and A. Limjanov on their elections as chairman of the union, and chairman of nationalities, of the USSR Supreme Soviet, respectively.

The papers report that Vietnamese Forestry Minister Phan Xuan Dot and his Indonesian counterpart Hasirul Harahap signed in Ho Chi Minh City on November 7 an agreement on forestry cooperation between the two countries.

A delegation of the world food program in charge on humanitarian aid has visited Vietnam's central province of Ha Tinh and decided to present the local population with 6,620 tonnes of rice to build and repair 44 kilometers of sea dykes, the papers say. The papers report that a press seminar on illegal migration of Vietnamese nationalities and resettlement of voluntary returnees recently held in Danang, central Vietnam.

The papers quote foreign sources as reporting that Japanese Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe said that a press conference on Japan's polices towards Vietnam and Indochina in Tokyo on November 6 that Japan will help Vietnam restore the economy. They also quote U.S. Secretary of Defence Dick Cheney as saying at the senate committee for investigating the fate of American MIA's that Pentagon investigators had found no evidence that any MIA's were still being held captive in Southeast Asia.

VNA Reviews Hanoi Newspapers for 11 Nov

BK1111065591 Hanoi VNA in English 0547 GMT 11 Nov 91

[Text] Text. VNA Nov 11—Prominently frontpaged in the press here today is an illustrated report on the return here yesterday of the high-level delegation led by Party General Secretary Do Muoi Premier Vo Van Kiet after its 6-day official visit to China.

The papers carry in full the Sino-Vietnamese joint communique issued in Beijing yesterday.

In its relevant article, NHAN DAN says that the summit meeting "marks the normalisation of the Sino-Vietnamese relations" which meet the aspirations and the basic, long-term interests of the two peoples and that "our people rejoice at the improvement of historic significance of the Vietnam-China relations." "We believe in the bright future of the good neighbourhood and friendship between Vietnam and China," the paper stresses.

Other frontpaged reports say that Libya has posthumously conferred its highest distinction, the Al-Fatah order, on the late President Ho Chi Minh, and that Vice Premier Phan Van Khai received here last Saturday a Libyan economic delegation led by Minister of Public Health Dr. Zaydan Badr Zaydan, which was here for a session of the Vietnam-Libya Inter-Governmental Commission for Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation.

QUAN DOI NHAN DAN on Sunday reported on the first repatriation here Nov. 9 from Hong Kong of 59 Vietnamese double-backers by a plane of the Hongkong airlines.

The English language daily VIETNAM NEWS says that Vietnamese producers, at their first exposition held in Hong Kong recently, won contracts worth more than 10 million USd for garments, sports shoes, embroidery and fine arts articles .

The paper further reports on a 6-day symposium on ship repair in Ho Chi Minh City, on Vietnam's two-fold increase of silk export value worth over 6 million USd [U.S. dollars] so far this year, and on two export zones to take shape soon in Ho Chi Minh City.

Australia

Goverment Examines Illegal Arms Exports to RSA

BK0911030091 Hong Kong AFP in English 0252 GMT 9 Nov 91

[Text] Sydney, Nov 9 (AFP)—Government officials here were investigating Saturday [9 Nov] a South African report that an Australian firm was among 38 foreign companies to have broken a United Nations arms embargo against South Africa.

The Johannesburg WEEKLY MAIL reported Friday that the Sydney company Alpha Chemicals had exported 200 kilograms (440 pounds) of a material known as strontium oxalate, which is said to have a defence application.

A spokesman for Australian Defence Minister Robert Ray said defence science officials were certain strontium oxalate was not a defence product, but he added that the Department of Foreign Affairs would work over the weekend to establish whether or not there had been any breach of trade embargoes.

Alpha, whose full listed name is Alpha Chemicals (Aust) Pty Ltd, is thought to be a subsidiary of a foreign-based multinational. The company, based in the Sydney beachside suburb of Dee Why, could not be contacted for comment.

Australia has a total ban on the export of any defence-related material to South Africa. Like other countries, it is easing some anti-apartheid sanctions such as those on airline links and sporting visits, but has said the arms ban would remain in force until Pretoria has a fully representative, democratically-elected government.

UNTAC Commander Reviews Cambodia Mission

BK1211081891 Hong Kong AFP in English 0757 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Text] CANBERRA, Nov 12 (AFP)—Between 5,000 and 10,000 men will be required for the United Nations peace-keeping force in Cambodia, the Australian general named as commander said here on Tuesday. Major General John Sanderson, 51, was nominated by U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar to head the military arm of the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

Informed sources in New York said late Monday that the United States had insisted on Sanderson's appointment as a condition for General Michel Loridon of France heading the 270-strong U.N. Advance Mission in Cambodia, which has begun arriving in Phnom Penh. Washington initially objected to the force being led by an officer from one of the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council, the sources said.

Australia's junior defence minister Gordon Bilney told a news conference here Tuesday that Sanderson was expected to be formally appointed next year. There were no objections from Security Council members to his nomination, Bilney said.

Asked how large a force would be needed to supervise the implementation of the October 23 peace agreement on Cambodia, Sanderson told the news conference, "I have a bracket but I wouldn't be prepared to show my hand on a minimum-sized force." But, he said, he expected UNTAC to include between 5,000 and 10,000 military personnel drawn from up to 30 countries.

Australia has offered to send 500 soldiers, and already has 40 communications specialists in Cambodia with the U.N. advance mission there.

Sanderson said, "We have to get into the country and have a look at the full extent of the situation and then decide what's required to supervise all the activities that are part of the agreement. It's a small country, but it's a nationwide task and it will be fairly demanding." He said he hoped UNTAC's main force would be on the ground before the start of the rainy season in May.

"The object is to commence the demobilisation immediately thereafter in conjunction with the reconstruction programs and the rehabilitation and resettlement programs," he said, adding, "The object would be to have an election sometime in early 1993." Sanderson, who will at first be military advisor to Perez de Cuellar, is due to join U.N. planners in Bangkok on Sunday.

The peace accord signed by Cambodia's four warring factions in Paris provides for 70 percent demobilisation of the factions' armies, reconstruction of the country's shattered infrastructure, and rehabilitation of an estimated 350,000 refugees.

Sanderson said UNTAC was more likely to train Cambodians to clear mines than do the job itself. He said the forces under his command would carry "light arms" for self-defence, and stressed that UNTAC's role was peacekeeping not fighting. "Like all U.N. missions where there's a military component, if there wasn't some element of danger there wouldn't be a military component," he said.

"But essentially this is about demobilisation, supervision of an agreed position, it's not about interposing between forces, it's not about enforcing a solution.

"It's about providing an atmosphere by monitoring, supervision, communication, which allows an agreement which has already been made by the Cambodian parties to be fulfilled."

A professional army officer for the past 30 years, Sanderson saw active service with the Royal Australian Engineers in East Malaysia in 1966 and South Vietnam in 1970-71, both jobs involving reconstruction and mine clearance. He later attended the Australian Staff College and was a Staff College instructor in Britain specialising in counter-revolutionary warfare and peacekeeping operations. He attended the U.S. Army war college in 1985-86, became a brigadier in 1986 and was promoted to his present rank in 1989. He carried out a review of the Defence Force's senior ranks which resulted in major reforms to the forces' organisation and policy-making processes.

Government To Sign Trade Accord With Indonesia

BK1011064691 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Text] Indonesia and Australia are expected to sign a new agreement soon formalizing trade links between Indonesia's eastern provinces and Australia's Northern Territory. Indonesia's junior trade minister, Dr. Jiwandono, says a memorandum of understanding is ready for signing.

It aims at allowing business investment in two trade development zones—one in Ujungpandang where raw materials will be processed, and the other in the Northern Territory capital, Darwin, where final finishing, quality control, and product marketing will take place. Possible joint development projects include the export of solar energy technology from the Northern Territory while eastern Indonesia could export timber, rattan, and minerals to the territory.

Hawke, State Premiers Disagree Over Tax Reform

BK1211065891 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 12 Nov 91

[Text] Australia's Prime Minister Bob Hawke has failed to convinced the premiers of the nation's six states to attend a special conference next week on federal-state relations. The premiers spewed out yesterday because Mr. Hawke rejected their plan to reform the tax system. Tony Hastings reports from Canberra.

[Begin Hastings recording] Mr. Hawke spoke to the premiers on the phone for nearly an hour but could not convince them to change their minds, the point of contention of the plan put forward by the premiers last week, which would give the states a guaranteed share of federal taxes. Under the present system, the distribution of federal revenue is entirely at federal discretion, and, to the annoyance of the premiers, Canberra has consistently reduced the flow of money.

But Mr. Hawke rejected the premiers' plan, saying it gave too much power to the states. He says the states should still attend the conference to discuss other issues, and he adds the federal government will not be held to ransom on taxation. The premiers have decided to discuss their positions among themselves. [end Recording]

Fiji

Coup Leader To Resign, Head Political Party

BK1011132291 Hong Kong AFP in English 1156 GMT 10 Nov 91

[Text] Suva, Nov 10, (AFP)—Fiji coup leader Major General Sitiveni Rabuka will resign from cabinet in order to head the Fijian Political Party, the FIJI TIMES has reported. Maj-Gen. Rabuka said in the paper's Saturday edition that he would formally announce his decision to step down upon the return of Fiji President Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau, who is visiting Fijian troops stationed in the Middle East.

The co-deputy prime minister and minister for home affairs apparently came under pressure from Prime Minister Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara to quit cabinet after being elected president of the Great Council of Chiefs-backed Soqosoqo ni Vakavulewa ni Taukei (Fijian Political Party, or FPP) two weeks ago, observers said. He raised a political storm by announcing that as party president he would become the Pacific island nation's next prime minister should the FPP win general elections scheduled for next year.

Some party members have argued that the FPP constitution does not provide for the party leader to automatically become prime minister. Maj-Gen. Rabuka faces a major challenge for the prime ministership from co-Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Josevata Kamikamica, who is also expected to contest the elections on an FPP ticket. Maj-Gen. Rabuka resigned as head of the Fuji Military Forces early this year to join cabinet on Ratu Sir Kamisese's invitation.